

Hafa Adai!

Proposed land lease agreement is terminated. **PAGE 2**
Public warned of fake YETI products. **PAGE 7**

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Senate tweaks pot law

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

» **Managing director qualifications, salary lowered**

The Senate made several tweaks last Wednesday to Public Law 20-66, or the Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018, by passing a bill lowering the qualifications for the Commonwealth Cannabis Commission managing director and adjusting the commissioners' annual salary.

See SENATE on Page 4

Lawyers for 7 workers get \$40K grant



Saipan lawyer Bruce Berline, left, and New York City lawyer Aaron Halegua pose in this file photo after a recent hearing in federal court.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The Impact Fund has given a \$40,000 grant to the two lawyers representing seven construction workers who are suing Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC and its contractor and a subcontractor.

Aaron Halegua said yesterday that the Impact Fund, a

non-profit organization based in Berkeley, California, provided him and his co-counsel, Bruce Berline, the fund last month.

The New York City-based Halegua said the Impact Fund awards grants to nonprofit le-

See LAWYERS on Page 4

Man turns self in for robbery

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A man who was questioned by police last Friday for his role in the robbery of a tourist and her young daughter turned himself in to authorities by tipping them off on his location where he could turn himself in.

Carl Steven Aldan, 23, is



Aldan

charged with robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery after he and a friend allegedly robbed a tourist and her daughter who were walking along Plumeria Avenue in Garapan last week.

During his bail hearing yesterday, Aldan's lawyer, assistant public defender Jean Pierre

See MAN on Page 4

\$20K bail for robbery's alleged getaway driver

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Superior Court imposed a \$20,000 cash bail yesterday on a man who was allegedly the getaway driver of a robbery in Garapan.

Wilson Kenneth Caintoy Celeste, 24, was arrested last Friday and is facing charges of robbery, conspiracy to commit



Celeste

robbery, and receiving stolen property.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho initially set Celeste's bail at \$100,000 but his lawyer, Samuel Mok, argued yesterday that his bail should

be reduced to \$10,000 since, based on the allegations, he

See \$20K on Page 4



SUMMER CAMP

MARC A. VENUS

Participants of the Summer Youth Empowerment Camp create bead accessories yesterday at the San Isidro Youth Learning Center.

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INSIDE



ASIA

Clashes involving Hong Kong's protest movement escalate to violence.

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FOCUS

Government hospitals place Native American patients at increased risk for opioid abuse.

PAGE 17



LIFE & STYLE

The Lion King cements the reality that the 2019 box office belonged to the Walt Disney Co.

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Local

Proposed Garapan land lease agreement is terminated

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The executor of an estate that owns parcels of land in

western Garapan where Tony Roma's and Capricciosa's restaurants are located has agreed with the owner of the establishments to void and

terminate their proposed new lease agreement for another 55 years.

Probio DLC Cabrera Jr., executor of the estate of Probio

M. Cabrera (deceased), and Triple J Saipan Inc. chair and chief executive officer Robert H. Jones signed the termination of real property lease

agreement last Thursday.

Because of this development, the parties, through their lawyers, withdrew from the Superior Court Cabrera's motion to approve the lease agreement.

The lawyers—Vincent DLG Torres representing Cabrera and James R. Stump representing Triple J Saipan Inc.—said that, because the parties have agreed to terminate the proposed lease agreement, this lease deal is now null and void, which makes the motion to approve moot.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho set a hearing for Sept. 12, 2019, to take up the matter.

The lawyers did not explain in court papers why the parties' terminated their proposed lease agreement.

Camacho earlier invited Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, some government agencies, the Hotel Association of the NMI, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce to submit *amicus curiae* briefs on issues involving Article 12 of the NMI Constitution and the renewal of land leases. He issued the invitations in connection with Cabrera's request for the court to approve the new lease with Triple J Saipan Inc.

Amicus curiae (friend of the court) refers to a brief filed in court by an entity or an individual who is not a party to a case. It offers information, expertise, or insight that is rel-

evant to the issues in a case.

Camacho asked the parties to submit a brief on the question: Does Article 12 prohibit a corporation, or its subsidiaries that took over the lease, from entering into a new lease if entering into a new lease would give the lessor a long-term interest in the real property for more than the original 55 years?

The judge has expressed concern that the proposed lease in this case may violate Article 12 restrictions. That article of the NMI Constitution restricts long-term interests in real property to persons of NMI descent.

In Triple J's support of Cabrera's motion to approve the lease filed last July 16, Stump argued that Article 12 restrictions are inapplicable in this case as the proposed lease does not take effect until the present lease expires and that the proposed lease is with parties that have no common ownership interests.

Currently, Stump said, there is an existing lease on the property that was established on April 2, 1980, between Probio M. Cabrera and a Jerry W. Crowe with an expiration date of March 31, 2020.

Camacho held a status conference yesterday afternoon at the parties' request.

Lessee Triple J Saipan Inc. and lessor estate of Probio M. Cabrera signed the proposed lease agreement last May 7 and 22, respectively.

Mobile device ban a step closer to reality

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

A measure to ban the use of cell phones while driving is a step closer to becoming a law after the House of Representatives unanimously approved the bill at their session last July 18, 2019.

With a vote of 14-0, the House approved Rep. Edmund Villagomez' (Ind-Saipan) House Bill 21-35, which seeks to ban drivers from using "mobile electronic devices" while operating any vehicle on a public road or highway.

The bill now heads to the Senate.

The bill seeks to penalize those who are found guilty of using their mobile electronic devices—or even just holding it while operating a vehicle—with \$50 for the first offense and \$100 for each subsequent offense.

If a person is found guilty of causing bodily harm to another because of this, the person will be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, will be

punished by a fine of not less than \$250 and not more than \$1,000, along with imprisonment of not less than 30 days and not more than six months.

The bill exempts people who are using their mobile electronic device for emergency purposes, which include emergency calls to law enforcement agencies, health care providers, the fire department, or other emergency services agency. This bill also exempts emergency responders and emergency service professionals, as well as people using digital two-way radio that uses a cellular telephone that operates by pressing a push-to-talk feature.

This measure is a resurrected bill from the 20th Legislature, which was also sponsored by Villagomez but vetoed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres on Nov. 22, 2017, due to issues with the language pertaining to emergency situations; emergency responders; and the wide selection of mobile gadgets that one may use while driving.

Torres: Lease no longer in client's best interest

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

During an unexpected hearing yesterday, Vincent DLG Torres Jr. told the court that his client, the executor of the estate that leases land to Triple J Saipan Inc., has opted to terminate the newly proposed lease agreement because it is not in his client's best interest anymore.

According to Torres, his client does not want to deal with the issues that have arisen since they petitioned for the court to approve the new lease agreement, so both parties have agreed to terminate the lease.

"My client would like to

ask the court to move on with the probate and not deal with the issue because there's no more issues in terms of the agreement," he said.

Torres added that the issue whether the agreement violates Article 12 or not is no longer an issue but that the agreement is just not in their best interest anymore.

"The parties agreed among themselves not to continue with this agreement. Article 12 is moot because the agreement is terminated. We feel the agreement does not violate Article 12 but that's no longer the issue. It's just not in both party's interest," he said.

Triple J lawyer James Stump said his client agreed to the termination as the agreement has caused unwanted controversy for both Triple J and the Cabrera family, the executor of the estate.

"Triple J is a longstanding business and we just want to continue our business here without being subject to this. At this point, we would just like to withdraw the motion for approval. The lease is no longer in our best interest," he said.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered both parties to return on Sept. 12.

Saipan Tribune archives state that Probio DLC Cabrera Jr., executor of the estate of Probio M. Cabrera (deceased), filed a motion to approve the lease agreement on the Garapan properties.

Probio Dela Cruz Cabrera, through his lawyer, Torres, said this new lease agreement with Triple J is in the best interest of the heirs because it will financially benefit them.

Camacho was, however, concerned that the proposed lease may violate Article 12 restrictions. That article of the NMI Constitution restricts long-term interests in real property to persons of NMI descent.

DYS workers learn more about interviewing child abuse victims

By **MARC A. VENUS**
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REPORTER

Two experts on what is called forensic interviews are providing case workers and supervisors of the Child Protective Services with more knowledge on interviewing child abuse victims.

The seminar, presided by two members of the First Witness Child Advocacy Center in Duluth, Minnesota, and held at the Division of Youth Services office in Chalan Piao, is intended to provide CPS workers with the knowledge and tools to work efficiently in providing forensic interviews. It started yesterday and will be held throughout this week.

Forensic interviews are interviews where an interviewer gets detailed information about a certain event or encounter that the interviewee experienced. In the CPS' case, it will be interviews with child abuse victims.

Laura Gapske and Catie Dahl gave insight about the First Witness Child Advocacy's goal and information about the Zero Abuse Project, which seeks to prevent, recognize, and respond to child sexual abuse.

According to the First Witness website, the organization provides forensic interviews, crisis counseling to children and families, and forensic interview training to social workers, law enforcement officials, county attorneys and others who work with children or investigate child abuse allegations.

A total of 17 participants



Participants of the Division of Youth Services, First Witness, and Zero Project forensic interview seminar pose for a picture yesterday at the DYS Office at Chalan Piao.

MARC A. VENUS

are taking the seminar (13 from Saipan, two from Rota, and one each from Tinian and the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence).

One of the CPS case workers, Benylin Mettao, said this is the second training for a few of the case workers, having attended a similar seminar in 2017 and are aware of what procedures of what must be done in order to provide an effective forensic interview.

She said CPS tries to establish a neutral place where the case worker is able to communicate and create an environment where the child is able to answer questions without feeling like the conversation is

leading to the scenario.

"This training aims to show the new staff a direction for a forensic interview," she said, and that the seminar provides new information that can add on the knowledge that they already have.

According to Gapske, the trainees will learn all the fundamentals to forensically interview children in a sound and non-leading manner, and how to get a reliable statement from a child about what occurred that is about the investigation. Nationally, case workers must get the training every two to three years, she added.

Gapske believes it is a good idea that the CPS supervisors are participating in the semi-

nar as they are informed about the case worker's information about an investigation and can provide support.

DYS administrator Vivian Sablan informed *Saipan Tribune* that this is the third time that the seminar has been held for the CPS case workers and supervisors. "We're doing this [seminar] to provide our staff the necessary tools to perform interviews efficiently," Sablan said.

She said the recommended number of forensic interviews is one, as more can impact the child's decision-making.

Gapske and Dahl expect the entirety of the seminar's participants to be certified this Friday.

CAO, DYS host second half of summer camps

By **MARC A. VENUS**
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REPORTER

The Carolinian Affairs Office and the Division of Youth Services are co-hosting the second and final Summer Youth Empowerment Camp, which began yesterday at the San Isidro Youth Learning Center.

Forty participants were present in yesterday's opening, said CAO project manager Paul Ythemar, and a total of 53 participants are registered for the camp.

The camp will be ongoing until Aug. 1, from 7:30am to 11:30am.

The first half of the camp was a success, Ythemar said, and he wants the final half to end on a strong note. He hopes the participants will be prepared for their final day of performances on Aug. 1 and that it will impress the parents who attend.

The camp begins the day by teaching the campers about mental, nutritional,

and health fitness. Ythemar said that the Commonwealth Health Care Corp.'s Systems of Care, the Commonwealth Health Center, the Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention Office, and DYS will each handle the presentations and activities.

Latte Built Fitness provides the physical activities by making the participants play sports such as kickball, basketball, and many different sports that can be incorporated. The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Sports and Recreations took care of the physical activities for participants in the Tanapag camp.

Afterwards, the participants will be introduced to the arts and crafts portion of the camp. Participants will learn how to sing island music, speak some Carolinian, perform traditional dances, create bead necklaces and bracelets, make fire, fish, paint, weave, and create traditional flower leis called "mwar."

NMDC general membership meeting today

The Northern Marianas Descendant Corp. invites all members and interested parties to a general membership meeting today, July 23, at 6pm at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

The agenda will include a review of the NMDC mission, purpose and priorities, formation of standing committees, and membership recruitment. (PR)

Participants of the Summer Youth Empowerment Camp learn how to sing a local song yesterday at the San Isidro Youth Learning Center.

MARC A. VENUS

Ythemar said the camp will be switching up the order of activities throughout the week to keep participants entertained.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program will provide snacks and lunch for the participants.

There will then be a mini-graduation for camp participants on Aug. 1, during which they will perform dances and sing.



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Star Marianas to offer more seats

Star Marianas Air Inc. announced yesterday that it will be adding more seats between Saipan and Rota and Guam and Rota beginning July 24.

The Tinian-based interisland carrier said the decision to add more seats between the three islands was made in consultation with the Rota Legislative Del-

egation and other local officials.

"Adding more seats will mean that our residents and visitors will have more options when making their travel plans," Star Marianas said in a press statement yesterday.

Bookings can be made online at www.starmarianasair.com or by contacting Star

Marianas' reservations office at (670)433-9998/9996.

Sens. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) lauded Star Marianas' decision, with the former extending a "thank you!" to the company in a Facebook post.

"From the people and leaders of Rota, thank you Star Marianas Air for providing additional air passenger service, most es-

pecially to and from our beautiful island of Rota!" said Santos in a similar social media post.

Star Marianas is a U.S. regional commuter airline serving the CNMI and Guam. It offers scheduled flights from Saipan to Tinian; from Saipan to Rota; and from Rota to Guam. Additionally, charter flights can be arranged 24 hours per day/seven days per week.

DOL: Quarterly reports due soon

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente is reminding that all CNMI businesses are required to submit soon a quarterly report that lists their total workforce and workforce plan.

Benavente told *Saipan Tribune* that the data collected in these quarterly reports reiterates the CNMI's workforce struggles annually.

"Without this data, we can't prove to anyone that we do

not have enough U.S. workers in the workforce," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Benavente, the quarterly reports are a part of the CNMI DOL regulations and is required of businesses. It helps keep track of the number of positions and type of jobs that are currently available in the CNMI.

Data compiled last year noted 41,902 job openings reported to DOL from Jan. 1, 2018, through Dec. 31, 2018.

"All this information we tally

up. ...It shows that even with a workforce of 22,000, it is still not enough because there are businesses that want to develop more—retail shops, restaurants, hotels, and even apartments," Benavente noted. "They can't because they don't have construction workers and they need to see how they can hire for [their manpower needs]."

The data also touches a bit on the prevailing wages of occupations in the CNMI.

In recent years, Benavente noted, the number of businesses that participate in the submission of the quarterly re-

ports have been climbing.

"We used to get 200 employers submitting documents and now we are getting close to a thousand and I am very happy about that," she said. She did clarify that failure to participate in the quarterly report submissions result in a sanction from the CNMI DOL.

"I don't want to go that route. I want the businesses to understand that this report helps them," she said, noting that the reports are provided to the U.S. Congress and proves how dependent the CNMI is on foreign labor.

LAWYERS

From Page 1

gal services, private lawyers, and/or small law firms who seek to advance justice in the areas of civil and human rights, environmental justice, and/or poverty law.

Since its inception, the Impact Fund has awarded over \$6.5 million, which has facilitated a wide range of impact litigation across the nation.

In a statement, Berline said they are grateful for and encouraged by the Impact Fund's grant.

"Although the defendants may deny the allegations made by the plaintiffs, this shows that others believe in the merit of our case," Berline said.

The grant, he said, will help ensure that they can take all the steps necessary to litigate the case, including deposing all relevant parties and hiring expert witnesses.

The plaintiffs—Tianming Wang, Dong Han, Yongjun Meng, Liangcai Sun, Youli Wang, Quingchun Xu, and Xiyang Du—are suing IPI, MCC, and MCC's subcontractor Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI) LLC over the injuries they suffered during accidents at IPI's casino/resort project worksite.

The plaintiffs, who are all Chinese nationals, are suing the defendants for alleged forced labor in violation of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, forced labor in violation of the CNMI Anti-Trafficking Act, negligence, and liability for employees of subcontractor.

The workers alleged, among other things, that they were forced to work long hours for below minimum wage under extremely dangerous conditions at the casino-resort worksite.

In its response to the lawsuit, IPI, through counsel Phillip J. Tydingco, said any

wage claims by the plaintiffs are barred because they voluntarily illegally entered the CNMI to work.

Tydingco said the plaintiffs knowingly and voluntarily worked illegally in the CNMI.

Tydingco said to the extent plaintiffs are deemed to be IPI employees or borrowed servants, then their claim for negligence is barred because IPI possessed Workers Compensation Insurance.

Tydingco added that the plaintiffs have not exhausted their administrative remedies before the Commonwealth Workers Compensation Commission.

The lawyer said the plaintiffs' claims for forced labor in violation of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act and forced labor in violation of the CNMI Anti-Trafficking Act are barred based on consent.

MCC International, through counsel Robert T. Torres, said the lawsuit

was filed in bad faith and is frivolous.

Torres said MCC acted in good faith and believes that their actions were in compliance with the law.

Torres said MCC is not liable for the damages being sought by the plaintiffs because if any person or entity engaged in intentional or unlawful conduct as alleged in the lawsuit, such person or entity did so without MCC's authorization and knowledge.

Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI) LLC, through counsel Tiberius D. Mocanu, in its answer stated that the plaintiffs were not their employees but of a subcontractor that used to work with IPI's casino/resort project in Garapan.

Mocanu said it does not have sufficient information to admit or deny whether the subcontractor paid the seven plaintiffs their wages. (**Ferdie de la Torre**)

regulations, at a fee of \$75.

The Senate also inserted language that prohibits commission personnel from being associated with any marijuana licensee for business or financial gain and also restricts entities licensed by the commission to offset any credit through the deduction of their gross revenues.

The bill has yet to be acted on by the House and Sablan noted that there is no tentative schedule yet for the next House session. He did note that he expects action on the bill at the next session.

The move to fully legalize marijuana in the CNMI has been stymied by the lack of regulations governing the law. The cannabis commission is supposed to come up with those regulations.

Founded in 2008, Star Marianas received initial certification from the Federal Aviation Administration as an On-Demand Air Carrier effective April 1, 2009, with its first flight occurring on April 2, 2009—a charter between Tinian and Saipan.

Its website notes that the "Star" in Star Marianas Air comes from the first letter of the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Aguiguan, and Rota.

\$20K

From Page 1

was just driving the getaway vehicle and may not have been directly involved in the robbery. Mok added that Celeste has strong ties to the community so he is not a flight risk.

Chief prosecutor Heather Barincas of the Office of the Attorney General did not oppose reducing the bail amount but asked the court that, if bail is reduced, let it be reduced to \$20,000.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo reduced Celeste's bail to \$20,000 and ordered him to return to court on July 29 at 2:30pm for a preliminary hearing.

Celeste is scheduled to be arraigned on Aug. 5 at 9am.

Celeste is prohibited from speaking to his co-defendant, Carl Aldan, prohibited from having any contact with the victim and her daughter, and is prohibited from going near seaports and airports.

The court also ordered Celeste to turn in his passport and travel documents and prohibited him from applying for any travel documents.

According to court infor-

MAN

From Page 1

Nogues, argued that his bail be reduced from the initial \$100,000 to \$15,000 because he proved that he is not a flight risk since he called the police himself to inform them of his location.

Nogues also argued that Aldan has a 5-month-old daughter currently in the Commonwealth Health Center, so he has strong motive to remain on the island.

Chief prosecutor Heather Barincas of the Office of the Attorney General argued that Aldan had told his co-defendant, Wilson Kenneth Caintoy Celeste, that he would use the money to return to the Philippines.

Barincas said she does not oppose reducing the bail amount but asked the court that, if the bail were to be reduced, to have it reduced to \$20,000, which Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo later granted.

Govendo scheduled Aldan's preliminary hearing for July 29 at 2:30pm; arraignment is

In 2019, Star Marianas' 10th year in operation, it will be adding three additional Cherokee Sixes to the fleet, bringing the total number of its fleet to 14 aircraft.

Star Marianas currently operates from the Saipan Commuter Terminal on Saipan, from the international airport terminals on Tinian and Rota, and from the Light Aircraft Commuter Facility in Guam. (**Mark Rabago**)

mation, Department of Public Safety officers responded to a report of a robbery on July 14 at around 7:22pm along Plumeria Avenue in Garapan. The victim was a tourist and her young daughter who reported that she was robbed by a man who ran out from a red Nissan Sentra and grabbed her purse while she and her daughter were walking.

On July 18, police found the red Nissan Sentra at Celeste's residence in Gualo Rai and brought him in for questioning.

Celeste allegedly confessed that he drove the vehicle that was used in the robbery but Aldan was the one who stole the tourist's purse and instructed him to speed off.

Celeste said that he needed money so he sent Aldan a message through Facebook to borrow some from him.

Aldan, in turn, told Celeste he knew of a way to make a lot of money quick and all he needed to do was drive him.

Celeste said there was over \$1,000 in the stolen purse, a Hermes watch, passports, and credit cards.

Celeste told police that Aldan gave him \$400 from the stolen cash and Aldan took the rest and left in a taxi.

on Aug. 5 at 9am.

Govendo also ordered Aldan to stay away from his co-defendant, Celeste, from the victims of the case, from all airports and seaports, and to surrender his passport if he has one.

According to court information, Department of Public Safety officers responded to a report of a robbery on July 14 at around 7:22pm along Plumeria Avenue, Garapan. The victim was a tourist and her young daughter who said she was robbed by a man who ran out from a red Nissan Sentra and grabbed her purse while she and her daughter were walking.

Items stolen include credit card, passports, a Hermes watch, and over \$1,000.

The red Nissan Sentra was found at a residence in Gualo Rai on July 18 and police later learned that the vehicle's operator was Celeste.

Upon interviewing Celeste, police learned that Aldan was the one who planned the robbery and needed a ride.

Aldan also confessed to the robbery after allegedly calling the police to inform them that he was at CHC.

SENATE

From Page 1

With the Senate unanimously passing Rep. John Paul Sablan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 21-13 HD1 in the form of a Senate substitute, the bill that establishes the function of the cannabis commission now heads to the House of Representatives for action.

Among the several amendments made by the Senate through the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee were clarifications on the compensation rates, attendance requirements, and applicability of employment requirements for the members of the commission as well as the managing director.

Notably, the managing director, which was previously

required to have a bachelor's degree from a U.S.-accredited educational institution or equivalent, along with four years of work experience in the cannabis, agricultural, or other related industries, is now only required to have four years of work experience.

This change, Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*, is "not controversial."

Also enclosed within the new Senate version of the bill was language that lowered the cannabis commissioners' annual salary from \$60,000 per annum to \$55,000 per annum.

"We are [still] reviewing [the Senate version]," Sablan said, adding that they only received the documents at their House session last July 18, 2019. "We are going to decide as a body what we are going to do with it."

According to Sablan, the bill now has two possible outcomes, depending on the House's action. If the House accepts the Senate revisions, then the bill goes straight to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for enactment. If the House rejects the revisions, both the House and the Senate will go into a conference committee to negotiate a middle ground.

"It's too early to call," Sablan said. "We've been trying to push the cannabis legislation out so that we can have the commission begin its work...and start promulgating the regulations for the industry."

The Senate also inserted language that proposed for the immediate implementation of the homegrown marijuana registry system even without

60 undergo training on monitoring child development



Training participants pose for a group photo after the training last Saturday, July 20.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

About 60 individuals participated in a training last Saturday, July 20, that focused on promoting the importance of developmental screening to monitor the growth of children.

The training, which focused on administering the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, was a partnership between the Commonwealth Health Care Corp.'s Division of Public Health Services' Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Child Care and Development Fund.

It was facilitated by MCHB Child Health coordinator Danielle Su, including MCHB staff and childcare providers subsidized by the CCDF.

The Ages and Stages Questionnaire 3rd edition, or ASQ-3, is a parent-completed developmental screening tool used to monitor the developmental performance of children aged 1 month to 66 months in the areas of communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving, and personal-social skills.

The training focused on promoting the importance of developmental screening and

monitoring utilizing the ASQ-3 screener, and was aimed at participants who had not been previously trained on the ASQ-3.

This training is important in providing CNMI childcare and health providers with the tools to support parents in using the ASQ-3 to monitor their child's development and identify possible areas where support is needed. At the CHCC Children's Clinic, developmental screenings are incorporated into well-child visits, and screenings are recommended at regular intervals until a child reaches 66 months (5 1/2 years) of age. C

For more information, and for parents who may be concerned about their child's development, call the MCHB at (670) 664-8701.

For more information about the CCDF, access <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/archive/occ/resource/child-care-and-development-fund>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow it on Facebook and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out its website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call (670) 234-8950. (PR)



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Fees waived for NMC info session attendees

Attendees of the Northern Marianas College's information session on Thursday, July 25, will qualify to have their application and placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2019 semester.

The information session will be held from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at college's Olympio T. Borja Library at the As Terlaje campus.

In addition to the admission process, the information session will cover financial aid options that are available for the fall 2019 semester. This will include the federal financial aid program that uses the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA,

which is administered by the U.S. Department of Education and is the largest financial aid provider in the U.S. through the program's many grants, loans, and scholarships.

The first day of classes for NMC's fall 2019 semester will be on Aug. 26, 2019, but interested applicants are encouraged to apply early to register for courses and apply for financial aid.

For more information about registering for classes for the fall 2019 semester or to apply for admission, contact NMC's Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

75 years of Guam liberation and the US Coast Guard

SANTA RITA, Guam—Last Sunday marked the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Guam, and the U.S. Coast Guard was there alongside partners and allies to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

Adm. Karl Schultz, the commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, joined the people of Guam and the military to honor those who came before. In World War II, the allies fought for freedom on the battlefields of Europe, but also on the seas and islands of the Pacific. For more than seven decades, the Indo-Pacific region has shown us its critical strategic importance.

“The U.S. Coast Guard has a specific and irreplaceable national security role in advancing the rules-based maritime governance of the Indo-Pacific region that ensures all nations are secure in their sovereignty and can pursue economic growth consistent with international norms. This is a role we have shared for decades,” said Schultz.

Since World War II, the bond between the people of Guam and the Coast Guard remains strong. The first civilian



U.S. COAST GUARD/AUXILIARIST DAVID LAU

Members of Coast Guard Sector Guam and USCGC *Sequoia* stand for a photo before participating in the annual Liberation Day parade in Guam last July 21, 2019.

governor of the island, Carlton Skinner, was appointed after serving as a Coast Guard officer during the war. His

legacy was one of civil rights and equality. He purposed and implemented a policy of desegregation during an unprec-

edented experiment aboard the USS *Sea Cloud* and even after leaving office supported greater self-rule for Pacific is-

lands under the United States jurisdiction.

Shortly after liberation, work began on the Mariana Islands Long Range Navigation system with stations in Guam, on Saipan, and the Ulithi Islands. The LORAN system was developed during World War II and was the most dependable form of navigation before the development of GPS. After the war, the LORAN stations were turned over to Coast Guard service members who continued to operate them for years to come.

The stationing of numerous Coast Guard cutters and units on the island over the years have provided for safety and security as well as a stronger

maritime transportation system and increased regional partnerships. Their crews offer a range of services from aids to navigation maintenance to search and rescue. Guam is now home to Coast Guard Sector Guam, Station Apra Harbor, the Coast Guard cutter *Sequoia* and the two 110-foot Island Class patrol boats *Washington* and *Kiska*.

Soon, three newly built fast response cutters will arrive to replace the two aging patrol boats as the Coast Guard continues to modernize its fleet to deal with the increasingly complex global maritime transportation system. (*USCG*)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Solicitation for Bids for Generator Overhaul on Managaha Island

Tasi Tours and Transportation, Inc. (“Tasi”) operates a tourism concession on Managaha Island under a contract with the CNMI Department of Public Lands. Under this contract, Tasi maintains generators to provide power on Managaha. Tasi is soliciting formal bids for the overhaul of one of these generators, a Denyo, DCA-150SPK generator, 1997 model, which has over 12,000 running hours on it since its last overhaul in April, 2012. The award is contingent upon approval by the Department of Public Lands.

Bid packages are available now. If desired, boat transportation to Managaha to view the generator may be arranged by calling David L. Igitol at Tasi at (670) 235-9373. Such arrangements must be made by no later than July 26, 2019.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP19-CHCC/CGC-016

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 29, 2019 **TIME: 2:00 PM**

“DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM”

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL. IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

*Mandatory bidders meeting on July 03, 2019 @ 11:00 am, Saipan time @ CHCC Conference Room #3. *Off-island vendors, please email Subroto Banerji @ Subroto.banerji@dph.gov.mp for a Zoom link.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ SUBROTO BANERJI
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

E & F CORPORATION

Has an opening for
TOUR GUIDE (3)

Job Duties:

- 1.) Handle pre-arrange package tours & activities surrounding in-bound tours, have the ability to carry out activities numerated in the package tour.
- 2.) Prepares reports on tour activities, correspond with tour activities.
- 3.) Correspond with tour operators in Korea.
- 4.) Prepare exit & arrival schedules.
- 5.) Formulate, organize and execute an attractive and competitive tour package to be sold to Korean tourists, who are based in Korea.
- 6.) Confirms reservations, arranges sales of optional tours or services.
- 7.) Assist in selling of optional tours, assist customers on daily basis in explaining all the optional tours and rental items available and perform other duties as assigned or as required.
- 8.) Explain the different optional tours available on the island.
- 9.) Explain and inform tourist customers about the different historic tourist spots on the island to give each customer knowledge about the islands history and its significance to the people of Saipan.

Requirements:

- Two years related experience in Tour/ Travel Industry.
- Must be able to speak, read and write the Korean language for better communication with the tourist customers.
- Computer skill required (Microsoft-Office-Excel/Word)
- At least High school Graduate.
- Traffic and police clearance required- Applied Equally to US and CW-1 Workers.
- Must possess a Tour Guide Certificate from MVA/NMC.
- Must possess a valid CNMI Driver's License.
- Must be willing to work with flexible schedule.
- Previous work experience required- Applied Equally to US and CW-1 Workers.

Salary: \$ 10.36 per hour

This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to enfcorp17@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Friday 9am-6pm, except holiday).

E & F CORPORATION

Has an opening for
RESERVATIONS SALES AGENT (1)

Job Duties:

- 1.) Make arrangements for Hotel/Restaurant/Optional Tour Reservations of tourist customers.
- 2.) Make daily schedules for Korean customer's trip itinerary.
- 3.) Make Inquiry on hotel availability.
- 4.) Coordinate with tourist customers/hotels/restaurants/optional tour companies in making any requests from tourist customers.
- 5.) Coordinate with Tour Companies in Korea in regards with upcoming/arriving tourist customers.
- 6.) Make reports on daily tour activities.
- 7.) Make Hotel/Restaurant/optional tour payments.

Requirements:

- At least High school Graduate.
- Must be knowledgeable in computer programs (Excel, Word and Online Reservation System)
- Must know how to operate simple office machines such as fax/telephone and computer.
- Good verbal and written communication skill required.
- Must be able to read, write and speak Korean Language for better communications with the main office and with the customers.
- At least 1 year related experience in travel/tourism industry.
- Police clearance required.
- Valid Driver's License Required.
- Previous Job Certificate required.

Salary: \$ 8.54 per hour

This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to enfcorp17@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday- Friday 9am to 6pm, except holidays)



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www.g4sguam.com

G4S is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment without attention to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran or disability status.

Public warned of fake YETI products

The Office of the Attorney General is warning CNMI consumers against fake YETI products and is urging the public to be vigilant against buying these products.

"We have reason to be-

lieve that several shipments of counterfeit YETI products have been introduced into our local stream of commerce," the OAG said in a public advisory issued yesterday.

YETI is a premium brand

of coolers, drinkware, and accessories.

"Please pay close attention to the products you are purchasing and make sure that you are only purchasing name-brand items from a trusted

source. Check for proper labeling and licensing information, as well as other identifying information that makes a product unique to a particular company.

"Inferior items may be found in improper packag-

ing, such as white boxes, and have inferior markings that can be seen in the stamped lettering on the product. Counterfeit items will generally be an inferior product design as well, which may cause paint to scratch off easily, liquids to leak, or temperature changes of contents which are incon-

sistent with licensed YETI products," the advisory states. "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is."

For those with concerns about products you may have purchased locally, contact the Office of the Attorney General's Office of Consumer Counsel at (670) 237-7500. **(PR)**

USCIS to make changes to naturalization test

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is revising the current naturalization test with improvements to ensure it continues to serve as an accurate measure of a naturalization applicant's civics knowledge and that it reflects best practices in adult education assessments.

The goal is to create a meaningful, uniform, and efficient test that will assess applicants' knowledge and understanding of U.S. history, government, and values.

This spring, the former USCIS director signed the Revision of the Naturalization Civics Test Memorandum. This memorandum announces the revision of the naturalization

test and formalizes a decennial revision schedule of the naturalization test based on adult education best practices.

"Granting U.S. citizenship is the highest honor our nation bestows," said acting USCIS director Ken Cuccinelli. "Updating, maintaining, and improving a test that is current and relevant is our responsibility as an agency in order to help potential new citizens fully understand the meaning of U.S. citizenship and the values that unite all Americans."

In December 2018, USCIS formed a naturalization test revision working group with members from across the agency. The working group

has been reviewing and updating the naturalization test questions. The working group will also assess potential changes to the speaking portion of the test. USCIS is soliciting the input of experts in the field of adult education to ensure that this process is fair and transparent. After

careful analysis of the pilot, and thorough officer training, USCIS will set an implementation date in December 2020 or early 2021.

Section 312 of the Immigration and Nationality Act outlines the English and civics requirements for naturalization. By law, candidates for naturalization must have "...an

understanding of the English language, including an ability to read, write, and speak words in ordinary usage in the English language..." and "...knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of the history, and of the principles and form of government, of the United States..." This test revision will comply with all

statutory and regulatory requirements, and USCIS will pilot it this fall.

In fiscal year 2018, USCIS naturalized nearly 757,000 people, a five-year high in new oaths of citizenship. The naturalization test revision is a key part of preparing legal immigrants to fully exercise their rights and meet their responsibilities. **(USCIS)**

House bill to set secondary road speed limit at 5mph returns to the committee

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the Office of the Public Defender pointing out flaws in the bill as it is currently written, lawmakers in the CNMI House of Representatives are reviewing a bill that would limit vehicle speeds in secondary roads in the CNMI to just 5 miles per hour.

Rep. Marco Peter's (R-Saipan) House Bill 21-46 was supposedly set for a vote during the last House session last July 18 but, in a letter addressed to the House, Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig pointed out that the legislation is somewhat "extreme," given that there is no specific definition of secondary roads in CNMI law.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) brought up Hartig's concerns during discussions on the bill, which ultimately resulted in the measure being referred back to the House Judicial and Governmental Operations Committee.

Propst quoted Hartig's letter, which pointed out that, without first identifying which roads are considered secondary roads, the legislation, if enacted, may be successfully challenged.

"...First, it mentions secondary roads but nowhere in 9 CMC §5251(c), which it is amending, does it define secondary roads. Without a definition, law enforcement cannot know who has broken the law and the motorist cannot know where they must drive at 5mph," Propst noted, citing Hartig's letter. "If a motorist were to challenge this on a basis of being constitutionally vague, I [believe] such a challenge will be successful."

When asked if the bill could be amended to identify secondary roads, Rep. Joel Camacho (R-Saipan), the JGO chairman, referred to House legal counsel John Cool on whether the legislation would fly without amendments addressing Hartig's concerns.

Cool ultimately concurred with Hartig. He noted that there is no definition for secondary roads in CNMI law and that could be a problem in the future. In order to move forward, Cool recommended defining secondary roads first.

House floor leader Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) ultimately withdrew his motion after a lengthy recess to review their options. The House moved to refer the bill back to JGO.

areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. The public should be advised that routine helicopter training, often accompanied with the use of blanks, can occur during these trainings.

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on July 23-25 at the island of Farallon de Medinilla, from 11am to 1pm. **(PR)**

Military trainings set

ASAN, Guam—Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 is conducting training until July 25 at the Dandan-Malojloj training site in Inarajan, from 11am to 11:55pm.

HSC-25 will also conduct training on July 24-25 at Radio Barrigada, from 6:30pm to 1am. Residents in surrounding



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75th Guam Liberation Day Parade



Members of Coast Guard Sector Guam and USCGC *Sequoia* participate in the annual Liberation Day parade in Guam last July 21, 2019.
U.S. COAST GUARD/AUXILIARIST DAVID LAU



Musicians from the Pacific Fleet band join Capt. Michael Luckett, second from right, commanding officer of the submarine tender USS *Emory S. Land*, his wife, Natasha, third from right, and Dededo Mayor Melissa B. Savares on a float while participating in Guam's annual Liberation Day parade last July 21.
U.S. NAVY/MCS1 STEVEN KHOR



Office staff, general managers, and crew members of McDonald's Guam pose for picture after the group participated in the 75th Guam Liberation Day Parade last Saturday.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Members of Coast Guard Sector Guam and USCGC *Sequoia* participate in the annual Liberation Day parade in Guam last July 21, 2019. This was the 75th observance of Liberation Day.
U.S. COAST GUARD/AUXILIARIST DAVID LAU

Residents of Guam wave to members of Coast Guard Sector Guam and USCGC *Sequoia* as they participate in the annual Liberation Day parade in Guam last July 21, 2019.
U.S. COAST GUARD/AUXILIARIST DAVID LAU



Capt. Michael Luckett, commanding officer of the submarine tender USS *Emory S. Land*, and his wife, Natasha, middle, ride a float with Dededo Mayor Melissa B. Savares, while participating in Guam's annual Liberation Day parade last July 21.
U.S. NAVY/MCS1 STEVEN KHOR



Sailors assigned to the submarine tender USS *Emory S. Land* participate in Guam's annual Liberation Day Parade last July 21.
U.S. NAVY/MCS1 STEVEN KHOR

U.S. NAVY/MCS1 STEVEN KHOR



Sailors assigned to the submarine tender USS *Emory S. Land* participate in Guam's annual Liberation Day Parade last July 21.
U.S. NAVY/MCS1 STEVEN KHOR



Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Brandon Price, center, attached to the submarine tender USS *Emory S. Land*, waves at spectators during Guam's annual Liberation Day Parade last July 21.
U.S. NAVY/MCS2 RICHARD A. MILLER



Asan-Maina Mayor Frankie Salas marches alongside sailors assigned to the submarine tender USS *Emory S. Land* during Guam's annual Liberation Day Parade last July 21.
U.S. NAVY/MCS2 RICHARD A. MILLER

MVA co-hosts summit to target high-end tourists

Targeting a higher-spending visitor, the Marianas Visitors Authority co-sponsored the 2019 Global Tailor-made Travel High-end Summit on July 10, 2019, in Beijing.

The event invited the most professional tailor-made travel agencies, destination promotion organizations, airlines, and travel media to share previous experience, analyze successful cases and the trend of MICE and tailor-made travel industry. Over 500 participants joined the summit.

MICE refers to a niche of group tourism that targets meetings, incentives, conferences, exhibitions, and other events.

“By co-branding the Global Tailor-made Travel High-end Summit, we were able to enhance the Marianas’ image as a specialty destination,” said MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo. “The summit has also provided us the opportunity to study the latest ideas in the design and promotion of tailor-made travel, review

recent industry developments, analysis and trend forecasts for the sector. In line with sustainable tourism development, we are looking to attract a demographic of higher-spending visitors to our islands.”

Influential tailor-made travel agencies such as Unique Way, HH Travel, Ctrip Customized Travel, and Caissa delivered speeches such as: How Travel Becomes Life of a Certain Class, The Way of Sustainable Development and In-



The Marianas Visitors Authority co-sponsored the 2019 Global Tailor-made Travel High-end Summit held on July 10, 2019, in Beijing, China.

MVA

novation, Upgrading of Customized Tour Enterprises, How to Improve Efficiency and Reduce Cost of Customized Travel, To Chase and Follow New Consumption Trend, Customized Travel Enabling Upgrade of Destination Marketing, and more.

A Marianas promotion video was displayed to the audience several times during the course of the summit, Marianas guidebooks were distributed to each participant, and the MVA logo was featured as a co-sponsor in the official summit booklet. (MVA)

Marianas promoted at ADEX Beijing Ocean Festival

The Marianas Visitors Authority was on hand to promote the underwater wonders of the Marianas at the Asian Diving Expo Beijing Ocean Festival on July 12-14, 2019.

The biggest and longest-running dive expo in Asia, ADEX has brought the best ocean and diving resources to its audience for 22 years. The ADEX Beijing Ocean Festival was organized by Underwater360, or UW360, and touted as one of the industry’s “must-attend” events.

“This was our third year to attend the Beijing Ocean Festival as part of our growing participating in the ADEX events throughout nearby areas of Asia, including Sin-



The Marianas Visitors Authority and its tourism partners promote the Marianas at Asian Dive Expo Beijing Ocean Festival on July 12-14, 2019. The MVA was joined by Ocean Plus, Green Flash, and Century Tours.

MVA

gapore and Beijing, China,” said MVA marketing manager Thomas Kim. “This year, we were joined by our tourism

partners Ocean Plus, Green Flash, and Century Tours in promoting the Marianas’ rich ocean and diving resources to

the audience.”

Marianas Ocean tourism ambassador Yorko Summer delivered the presentation

introducing the Marianas as an ideal diving paradise and calling on people’s sense of environmental protection by




Marianas Visitors Authority country manager Florence Shi, second from right, and the MVA delegation promote the Marianas at Asian Dive Expo Beijing Ocean Festival on July 12-14, 2019. From left, Judy Liof Centours, MVA China country manager Florence Shi, Marianas Ocean tourism ambassador Yorko Summer, judge of 2019 Asian Photographer of the Year Christian Vizl Mac Gregor, and MVA China travel trade manager Tony Zhang.

MVA

minimizing the use of plastic products.


“Summer’s marvelous photos, video, professional introduction and appealing interaction with audience made the presentation one of the hottest programs during ADEX,” said Kim.

In addition to many consumers, the MVA’s booth also welcomed several celebrities, including Doudou, ADEX Ambassador for Marine Conservation (Greater China); Wang Aolin, a previous visitor to the Marianas and ADEX Ambassador for Freediving (Greater China); and Christian Vizl Mac Gregor, one of the judges for the 2019 Asian Photographer of the Year award. (MVA)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-19-012, Rev. 1

ISLAND WIDE WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of the installation of new service saddles, corporation stops, and PVC service lines from the CUC main to the meter, proper sizing of existing service lines, installation of a water meter on non-metered customers, relocation of existing CUC water meters from private property to public easement, various exploration work, abandonment of unnecessary service lines, removal of existing manifold systems, and as required, installation of new service lines from the meter to the house plumbing.

The Bid Package may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **August 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-19-012, Rev.1, Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **9:00 AM (ChST) on August 16, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.


Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 2, 2019 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

Homeless Prevention Coalition

CNMI HOMELESS PREVENTION COALITION REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition is soliciting project proposals from qualified and established organizations and agencies to apply for the CNMI Continuum of Care (CoC) grant through Funding Opportunity Number FR-6200-N-25, Primary CFDA #14.267 under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by non-profit providers, states and local government to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness (FR-6200-N-25 Program Description).

The proposal packets are available at the NMHC Central Office in Saipan during regular business hours from Monday thru Friday, except CNMI Holidays beginning Tuesday, July 16, 2019.

A mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held on July 23, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the NMHC Central Office Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to the NMHC Office attention CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition or emailed directly to Jacob Muna at jjmuna@nmhc.gov.mp.

The proposal would be evaluated based on the following criteria (s):

RFP and Required Documentations	10%
Organizational Capacity	20%
Financial Management	20%
Project Plan	30%
Performance Measurement	20%

Proposers must seal and mark their proposals “2019 Continuum of Care Project”. Proposers must submit one (1) original and two (2) copies of sealed proposal and submitted to NMHC Central Office no later than 10:00 a.m. on August 16, 2018.

The CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of the CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals become the property of the CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition.

For more information, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, NMHC Planner at (670)234-7689 or (670)483-9447 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Vivian Sablan
Chairwoman

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Hard questions on immigration demand straight answers

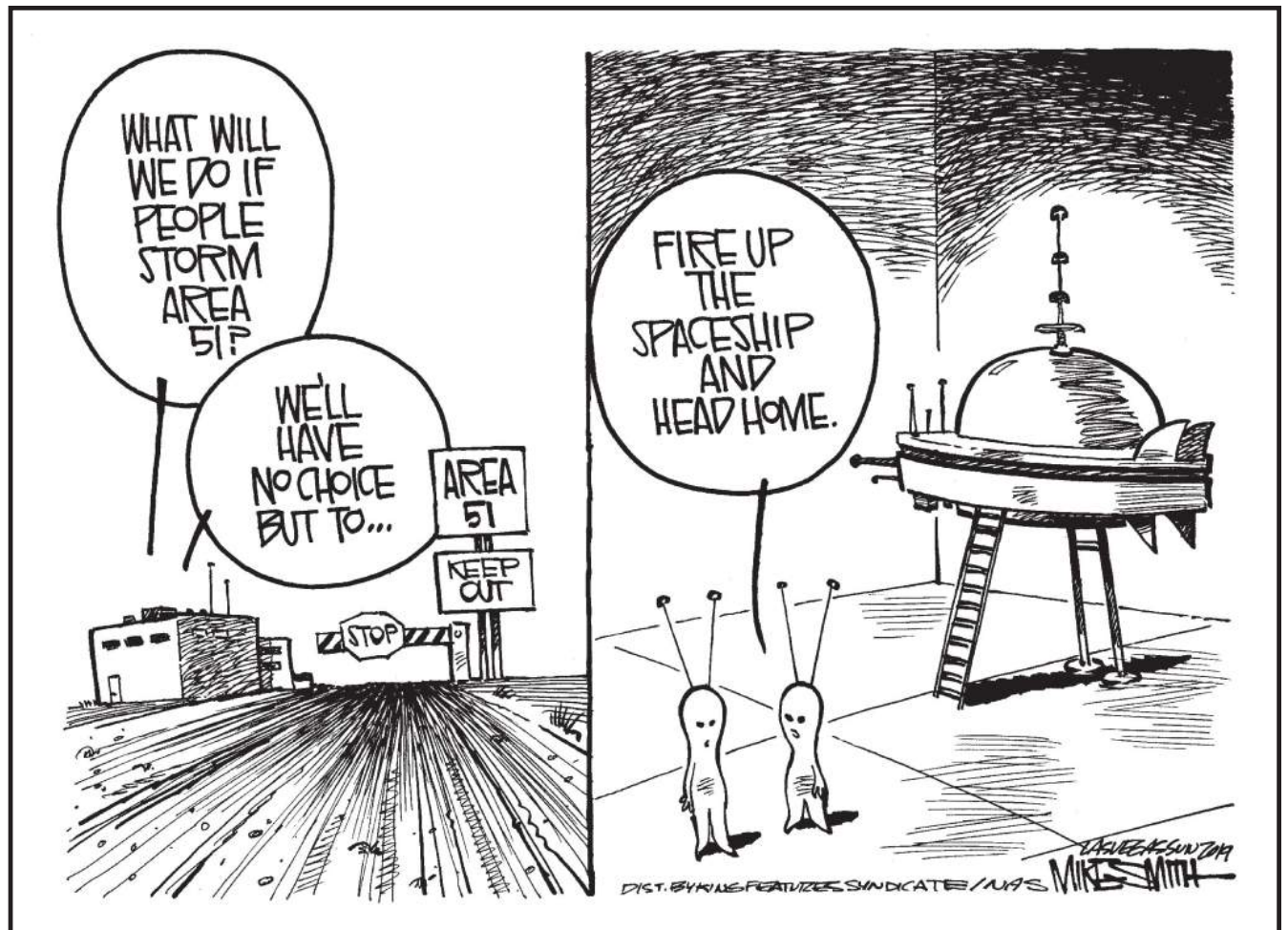
America's immigration policies are broken, and there's little sign in Washington of a bipartisan desire to fix them. President Donald Trump rages on about the crisis at the southern border, but has failed to come forward with plans that would end it. When it comes to effective proposals, Democrats haven't been much better. Most of the contenders for the party's presidential nomination can't even bring themselves to admit that illegal immigration is a serious problem.

Both parties need to answer three questions. First, what does the U.S. owe refugees and asylum seekers who are desperately seeking the safety that their own countries can't provide? Second, how many immigrants, and what kind, does the U.S. need to strengthen its economy and advance the well-being of all its citizens? Third, how should the country resolve the status of the 10 million or so undocumented immigrants already within its borders?

Undoubtedly, the U.S. needs to do more to help genuine asylum-seekers. International law requires it, and so do the values to which the country was dedicated. In 2017, the U.S. granted asylum to about 26,000 applicants. Moving forward, that number should double. Reaching that goal is not a matter of making standards more lenient, but clearing a backlog of several hundred thousand cases pending before U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services and the immigration courts. It will mean adding many more judges, clerks and asylum officers at the border.

The rules need fixing too: Layers of ill-adapted laws, administrative tweaks and court rulings have created incentives for filing asylum claims that lack merit, paralyzing the system and pushing the most desperate to the back of the line. Addressing all this will be costly. Congress just passed a bill appropriating \$4.5 billion to deal with the border surge, mostly for care and shelter. The 30 new immigration judge teams the bill covers (at a cost of \$45 million) won't dent the asylum backlog. To speed legitimate asylum claims, get rid of bad ones and keep up with future trends, the U.S. should hire 10 times that number.

As for refugees, the U.S. should set the annual ceiling at 120,000. With the number of refugees worldwide remaining at a historic high, that figure—slightly higher than the Obama administration's 2017 ceiling of 110,000—would be commensurate with the country's historical commitment to a compelling humanitarian purpose. Trump has lowered the ceiling for those admitted annually by nearly three-quarters, to 30,000—and in

See **HARD** on Next Page

Social-media shock stories amount to lazy journalism

Did you hear about the backlash against Disney for casting Halle Bailey, a young black woman, for the lead in the live-action version of "The Little Mermaid"?

The Washington Post ran an essay on the furor, with the headline, "The white nostalgia fueling the 'Little Mermaid' backlash." The subhead explained, "The uproar over a black Ariel shows how important representation in children's entertainment is."

The essay, written by Brooke Newman, an associate professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, informed readers that, "On July 4, as Americans celebrated Independence Day with barbecue, fireworks and armored vehicles rolling through the streets of Washington, #NotMyAriel began trending on Twitter."

"Outraged by Bailey's casting as Ariel, many (white) Disney fans took to Twitter to express their disappointment and to threaten to boycott the film," Newman wrote.

Apparently, some people find the idea of a half-human, half-fish creature to be believable enough, but only if the human half is a fair-skinned Scandinavian.

But this story was about much more than just a movie.

"The #NotMyAriel backlash is part of the wave of white nostalgia that Donald Trump used to win the presidency by appealing to white, working-class Americans who feel marginalized by the country's growing diversity," Newman lamented. "In Trump's America, it's possible to return to a 'simpler' past characterized by upward economic mobility and straight, white male cultural and political dominance."

Now, I agree that white nostalgia is a thing. So is black nostalgia—just look at the arguments over the gentrification of historically black neighborhoods in New York or Washington, D.C. And I certainly have my criticisms of Donald Trump's culture-war politics. I don't dwell on Newman's essay to debate her thesis, but to question her methodology.

It's true that the hashtag "NotMyAriel" was briefly trending on Twitter. And it's true that some people objected to the casting of Bailey in the role. But if you scroll through the tweets using the hashtag, you'll find that most of them are by people mocking the hashtag and the sentiments behind it. Without the backlash to the "Little Mermaid backlash," it never would have been trending in the first place. (Moreover, Brandon Wall of BuzzFeed found evidence suggesting the tweet that set off the viral frenzy came from a troll account.)

Newman links to a single Twitter account—one belonging to a teenager who had, as of this writing (despite being exposed in a Washington Post piece), a whopping 269 followers. For con-

By **JONAH GOLDBERG**
Tribune News Service



Jonah Goldberg's latest book, *Suicide of the West*, is now available wherever books are sold. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by e-mail at goldbergcolumn@gmail.com, or via Twitter @JonahNRO.

text, the (excellent) Twitter account for Steak-Umm frozen meat slices has nearly 55,000 followers.

This is an increasingly common form of lazy, almost fake, journalism and analysis.

This week, the British branch of Yahoo Entertainment ran a story headlined, "Chris Pratt criticised for 'white supremacist' T-shirt." Pratt, the star of "Guardians of the Galaxy" and other films, was spotted wearing a T-shirt with the Gadsden "Don't Tread on Me" flag on it.

Yahoo was widely and correctly criticized for the ignorant and stupid claim that the Gadsden flag is a white supremacist symbol—and subsequently changed the headline. But its methodology was equally idiotic. Yahoo collected a handful of tweets from random people with tiny followings and created a controversy where there was none.

There are nearly 70 million active Twitter users in the U.S. Scooping up a few dozen, or even a few thousand, people with strong opinions and stitching them together to reveal a major trend isn't journalism or analysis. It's a kind of fabrication—or at least it can be if you're only looking for the evidence that conforms to your thesis or satisfies your need for clicks. This is particularly true given that there are many people (never mind bots) whose sole mission is to say shocking things.

You could go to a packed football stadium and interview 30,000 people until you found a handful who believe that cheese and beer are disgusting. That doesn't give you license to write a story headlined, "Shocker: Green Bay Packers fans turn their backs on cheese and beer."

But that's what writers are doing when they cherry-pick social media for counterintuitive shock stories. It's even worse when they cherry-pick examples for intuitive stories. By that I mean the practice of hunting and pecking through the internet in search of examples that confirm what you already believe in your gut. It's an open warrant to fuel polarization by hiding biases behind anecdotes disguised as data.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Going back to where you came from

A few years ago I went back to visit the country from where my parents had immigrated to America.

It's in an important part of the world that fascinates me with its complexities. I still have relatives in Pakistan. I can understand the language. The food is delicious. The art is stunning, and the people have legendary hospitality. It's also been on the brink of a failed state politically, with all the challenges and corruption that developing nations face.

It's an odd experience when you've grown up a minority in your own country to suddenly be in a place where you are in the majority. I was particularly aware of my status as part of the privileged majority when I visited with the religious minority communities there. Members of the Ahmadiyya community face state-sponsored discrimination and some Christians also have been targets of persecution and targeted violence. Political leaders and journalists who have spoken out in defense of religious minorities risk violence and threats. For years, rising intolerance has been fueled by those with a political agenda.

Hatred and fear of the other can be powerful recruiting tools anywhere in the world.

There's always a sense of relief when I come back home from traveling abroad. I'm hyper aware of my "Americanness" when I am in a different country—my beliefs, my mannerisms, my way of operating in the world are a clear giveaway.

After this most recent trip to Pakistan, questions nagged at me when I returned. What if my parents had stayed and I had been raised in an educated, Sunni Muslim family where the country's power structure and dominant culture benefit my group. Would I have grown up to care about the most vulner-

able people in that society? Would I have spoken out if they were demonized if it didn't affect me personally? Would I have made excuses for or rationalized the dehumanization I can see so clearly as an outsider? Would I have looked away from it all, oblivious to an injustice because I wasn't personally involved in it?

Maybe I wouldn't have wanted to rock the boat or offend my family or friends who supported a particular political party. Maybe I would have thought there were more pressing concerns and been willing to compromise on the backs of the most vulnerable.

These were uncomfortable questions to consider. I wouldn't want to be that person. I like to believe I'm a person who cares about liberty and justice for everyone, not just when my own liberties are threatened. But, maybe as part of the majority I wouldn't have been aware of what it actually feels like to live under a sense of political threat and otherness.

Maybe it would have been easier to stay silent even if I saw places of worship bombed or angry mobs targeting innocent people who were different from me.

I think about this when I notice the deafening silence of Americans who I know to be good and decent people.

We all know what it means when people chant "Send her back!" at a political rally. We know what it means when only certain Americans are ever told to "go back" somewhere other than the country in which they are a citizen.

Intellectually, I've understood how privilege works. But on an emotional, visceral level I learned something about privilege by going to where my parents came from. I could have easily been part of a silent majority willing to overlook cruelty

By AISHA SULTAN

St. Louis Post-Dispatch



Aisha Sultan is home and family editor for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

and bigotry. It wasn't just greater economic opportunities and democratic freedoms I benefited from by being born in America. Growing up as a minority in America changed my heart and conscience. I internalized the belief that we are a country bound by common ideals—not a particular race, ethnicity or religion—and the responsibility that comes with defending those values.

Growing up hearing slurs shouted at my mother has given me the courage to call out a wrong when I see it happening. Learning our history has made me realize that if a politician promised me safety and economic security at the expense of Christians or Jews or Hindus, I would reject it.

It's America that taught me if a political leader says we would be greater if we got rid of those who disagreed with him, he is betraying our most cherished values.

It's America that taught me the price of silence is greater than any risk of speaking out.

It's America that tells me it is my only home.

The madcap caution of Donald Trump

The worry was that the Trump administration was ginning up fake intelligence about Iran blowing up oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz to justify a war against Iran. Then the next week President Donald Trump said the Iranian attacks weren't a big deal.

The episode is another indication of the underlying modesty—not a very Trumpian word—of the administration.

Subtract Trump's taste for nonstop controversy and rhetorical brinkmanship, and you're left with an incrementalist center-right government that has pursued an expansionary fiscal policy and avoided foreign war, for a period of peace and prosperity that—in any other universe—would be at the core of a stay-the-course re-election message.

For a while, the Obama doctrine was, "Don't do stupid stuff." The Trump team has built out the doctrine to "Privately consider and sometimes openly threaten stupid stuff, but at the end of the day, don't do it (usually)."

The Mexico tariff threat was typical. If Trump had gone through with the steadily escalating tariffs, it would have been a blow to our own economy and that of an ally. Instead, he got what might prove to be meaningful concessions from Mexico.

The thing about a Trump threat is that he always controls

whether he's going to go through with it or not. He's going to pull out of the North American Free Trade Agreement, actually no, he's not. He's going to impose auto tariffs on Canada, well, not really. What he's going to do is sign a new trade deal with Mexico and Canada that's a somewhat altered version of NAFTA and urge Congress to pass it.

Allies might be understandably appalled (or at times alarmed) by his habit of berating them and squeezing them for concessions, but the alliance system, a product of deeper forces than the persona of any one president, remains intact.

In the Middle East, Trump accelerated an anti-ISIS campaign that he inherited, announced a withdrawal from Syria that he didn't fully follow through on and kept troops in Afghanistan. Steady as she goes.

Pulling out of the Iran nuclear accord is a big deal and, given that it's not entirely clear how the administration imagines resolving the crisis, genuinely a shot in the dark (although Trump says he wants to talk).

Another gamble is the trade war with China, a truly significant departure from the old bipartisan consensus, yet even here, Trump presumably has the off-ramp of a fig-leaf deal should he decide that he wants to take it.

Americans. Shifting toward a system that pays greater attention to skills and to the needs of the labor market would raise the nation's return on immigration and make larger numbers of entrants of all kinds more politically feasible. In 2017, the U.S. issued 1,127,167 immigrant visas, but only about 7% went to workers themselves, not including their dependents. Moving forward, it should grant at least 1.4 million each year in total, and make half of these skills-based, changing that percentage as economic conditions demand. The points-based system used by Canada offers a good model.

This leaves the question of the undocumented. The president has called for "millions of illegal aliens" to be deported. That would take decades, cost tens if not hundreds of billions of dollars, hamstringing the U.S. economy, and cause untold disruption and heartbreak. The U.S. is a nation of laws—one reason why the country exerts such a pull—and certainly ought to uphold its immigration rules. But this needn't exclude a path to legal status and, eventually, citizenship for those entrants who are otherwise law-abiding. Innocents brought to the country as children deserve immediate dispensation. A crucial element of this approach, though, is better enforcement of the law in the future, so that the issue doesn't re-

By RICH LOWRY

King Features Synd., Inc.



Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

At home, in terms of the economy, everything (except for the tariffs) has been geared to preserving and boosting the recovery, from the tax cuts, to the deregulation, to the lack of interest in cutting spending, to Trump's jawboning of the Federal Reserve to keep rates low.

Given the choice, you'd prefer that people believed that your administration was cautious and incremental, while it undertook far-reaching changes, rather than believe it's on the verge of careening out of control, while pursuing a fairly reasonable path.

For now, he can plausibly make a re-election pitch that, despite what you might have gathered, he's been a steward of a country enjoying markedly good times.

surface as an intractable problem. Strengthening the border will require investment in roads and barriers in urban areas, better lighting and sensing technology, and new equipment for screening at ports of entry. A biometric entry-exit system could track the visa overstayers who've outnumbered illegal border-crossers in recent years. And expanding the E-Verify system for vetting newly hired workers will be essential: Currently, only about 800,000 businesses are enrolled, or less than a third of the 3 million or so U.S. businesses with 10 or more employees.

Trump is just plain wrong on immigration. He sees a vital economic asset as a liability. But most of the Democrats running to unseat him are choosing not to grapple honestly with the issue—that is, with the need to secure the border, uphold the law, and limit humanitarian commitments to what is both affordable and politically feasible. Public recognition of the benefits of immigration has risen lately, but so has the polarization that makes workable remedies impossible. Enough. Posturing will no longer do. Immigration poses hard questions—and demands straight answers.

HARD

From Page 10






2018, the country let in just 22,491. In 1980, a much smaller U.S. economy admitted 207,116. To match that level with today's larger population, the U.S. would have to admit some 300,000 refugees.

The fact is, the U.S. can be doing far more than it is now, and should work with other governments and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to this end. After all, the program more than pays for itself: By one government estimate, from 2005 to 2014, refugees contributed \$63 billion more in revenue than they cost in expenditures.

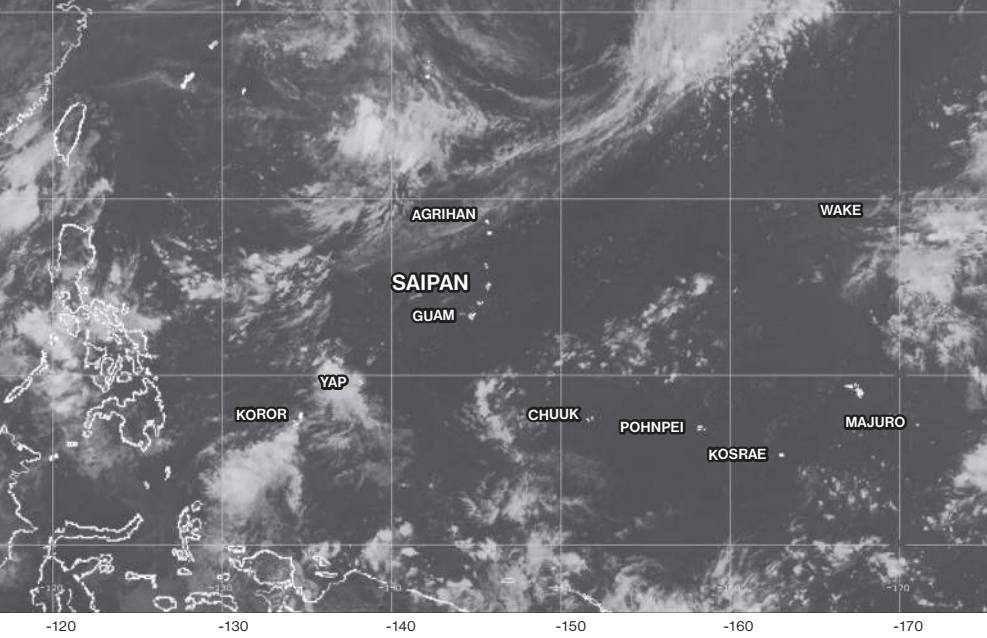
Simple self-interest, as opposed to moral commitment, should guide policy on economic migration. Sustaining the dynamism of the U.S. economy requires more immigrants at every level of skill, but especially those with talents in high demand. Immigrants alleviate demographic pressures while also bringing disproportionate ambition and entrepreneurial energy. A remarkable fact: Immigrants or their children established nearly half of today's Fortune 500 companies. For all these reasons, the U.S. needs to attract more foreigners who wish to become

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	
90°	78°	90°	78°	90°	78°	90°	78°	90°	78°

YESTERDAY’S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:07 AM, MONDAY, JULY 22, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The Marianas are now in a dry pattern that looks to continue through the first half of the week. An increase in deep layer moisture is likely around midweek. This will result in increasing cloudiness, a slight increase in showers and a greater chance of deep convection into the weekend. Therefore, maintained forecast for mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms through Saturday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 81°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	57° / 46°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	99° / 81°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°	
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 78°	
London	Mostly Sunny	91° / 73°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	88° / 71°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	59° / 48°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°	
New York	Showers	76° / 68°	
Osaka	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°	
Paris	Sunny	95° / 73°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	82° / 73°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	97° / 73°	
Salem	Thunderstorms	80° / 67°	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	65° / 54°	
Seoul	Rain	82° / 75°	
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	84° / 73°	
Washington, DC	Showers	77° / 68°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:01 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.93	
6:17 AM	LOW TIDE	1.09	
11:12 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.64	
5:53 PM	LOW TIDE	0.57	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:56 AM	6:49 PM
Wednesday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:57 AM	6:48 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	10:47 AM	11:10 PM
Wednesday	-	11:34 AM	11:47 PM
Thursday	-	12:22 PM	-
Friday	12:26 AM	1:12 PM	-
Saturday	1:07 AM	2:05 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 5, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	4:00am	7:00am	3	7C3452	10:00pm	3:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3452	10:05pm	3:05am+1	4
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 5	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6	7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily				
GUAM TO ROTA							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily				
SAIPAN TO TINIAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily				
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily				

Business

US hotels caught in fight over housing detained migrants

DETROIT (AP)—There's a new target in the clash over immigration: hotels.

Advocacy groups and unions are pressuring Marriott, MGM and others not to house migrants who have been arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers.

For decades, the U.S. government has occasionally detained migrants in hotels, and Acting ICE Director Matthew Albence says it might have to split up families if hotels don't help.

It's the latest example of a private industry caught in the political fray of an overtaxed immigration system.

American and United Airlines said last year they didn't want to fly migrant children separated from their parents. Greyhound told authorities to stop dropping off immigrants inside its bus stations. More recently, immigration groups have criticized Enterprise for renting vans to federal agents and PNC Bank for funding private detention centers.

Hotels don't like to wade into politics. They're used to accepting business without questions and tuning their lobby televisions to nonpolitical channels. They're also used to working with the government, whether to host displaced flood victims, defense contractors or conferences.

But when the Trump administration announced immigration arrests targeting families the weekend of July 13 and said it might use hotels, the big companies responded. Marriott, Hilton, Choice Hotels, Best Western, Wyndham, Hyatt, IHG and MGM Resorts all released statements saying they don't want their hotels used to detain migrants.

Hotels felt pressure from their unions—which represent thousands of immigrants—as well as from customers angered by recent scenes of overcrowding and other squalid conditions at detention facilities.

"Hotels are meant to welcome people from all over the world, not jail them," said D. Taylor, president of the hotel workers union Unite Here.

The companies also needed to reassure customers that their properties are safe and not overrun by armed guards watching migrants, said Daniel Mount, an associate professor of hospitality management at Pennsylvania State University.

So far, there's been little evidence of widespread arrests.

But the hotels' stance frustrates Albence. He said ICE uses hotels "strategically" to keep families together before transferring them to detention centers or deporting them. As



AP
In this July 8, 2019, file photo, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer looks on during an operation in Escondido, Calif.

Despite the corporate positions, individual hotels might still work with ICE. Franchisees run 88% of hotels in the U.S., according to data firm STR, and their franchise agreements don't expressly prohibit detained migrants.

Hotel companies could change those agreements to ban the practice, but waiting for the deals to expire and rolling out new ones would take years, Mount said. And not all hotel owners would back the change.

Walter Barela, who runs 10 hotels across the Southwest as principal of Albuquerque, New Mexico-based Peak Hospitality, said some of his hotels on the border work with church groups to house newly arrived immigrants at discount rates. But he has never been approached by ICE about rooms for detained migrants.

of July 16, the agency had 53,459 individuals in custody, including 311 members of families.

"If hotels or other places do not want to allow us to utilize that, they're almost forcing us into a situation where we're going to have to take one of

the parents and put them in custody and separate them from the rest of their families," Albence told The Associated Press in a recent interview.

The Trump administration's zero tolerance policy last year led to the separation of families at the southern border,

igniting widespread outcry before it was abandoned.

One national chain, Motel 6, faced lawsuits after it was accused of sharing guests' names with immigration authorities.

ICE wouldn't say whether it's now using hotels to detain migrants.

UA achieves highest Q2 pre-tax income in company history

CHICAGO—United Airlines (UAL) announced that the continued successful implementation of its strategy led to the company delivering two straight quarters of solid pre-tax margin growth—three quarters on an adjusted basis—and the highest second-quarter pre-tax income in the airline's history.

"Thanks to the outstanding and sustained efforts of 95,000 United team members, United is now consistently delivering results for our customers as well as investors as we raise the mid-point of our full-year 2019 adjusted diluted EPS3 guidance with a new range of \$10.50 to \$12.00," said Oscar Munoz, CEO of United Airlines. "By once again delivering strong EPS over the last three months, top-tier results are now the expectation, not the exception for United."

■ Reported second-quarter net income of \$1.1 billion, diluted earnings per share (EPS) of \$4.02, pre-tax earnings of \$1.4 billion and pre-tax margin of 11.9 percent, expanding pre-tax margin 4.0 points versus the second quarter of 2018.

■ Reported second-quarter adjusted net income of \$1.1 billion, adjusted diluted EPS of \$4.21, adjusted pre-tax earnings of \$1.4 billion and adjusted pre-tax margin of 12.4 percent, expanding adjusted pre-tax margin 2.0

points versus the second quarter of 2018.1

■ Total passenger revenue increased 6.1 percent versus the second quarter of 2018.

■ Consolidated second-quarter passenger revenue per available seat mile (PRASM) increased 2.5 percent year-over-year.

■ Consolidated second-quarter unit cost per available seat mile (CASM) decreased 0.4 percent year-over-year.

■ Consolidated second-quarter CASM, excluding special charges, third-party business expenses, fuel and profit sharing, increased 0.6 percent year-over-year.

■ Repurchased \$536 million of its common shares in the second quarter of 2019, at an average Exhibit 99.1 purchase price of \$84.07 per share.

■ On July 15, 2019, the company's Board of Directors authorized a new \$3 billion share repurchase program.

1 Excludes special charges, the mark-to-market impact of financial instruments and imputed interest on certain finance leases. Reconciliations of non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly

comparable GAAP measures are included in the tables accompanying this release.

2 Airline history defined as post-2010 merger.

3Excludes special charges and the mark-to-market impact of financial instruments, the nature of which are not determined at this time, and imputed interest on certain finance leases.

Accordingly, UAL is not providing earnings guidance on a GAAP basis.

For more information on UAL's third-quarter and full-year 2019 guidance, please visit ir.united.com for the company's investor update.

Second-Quarter 2019 Highlights

Customer experience

■ United Polaris lounge at San Francisco International Airport voted best business class lounge in the world by the 2019 World Airline Awards from Skytrax.

■ Introduced Connection-Saver, a new tool dedicated to improving the experience for customers connecting from one United flight to the next, while ensuring those who have already boarded the aircraft arrive at their destination

on time.

■ Began flight operations at LaGuardia Airport's new Terminal B Eastern Concourse and opened newest United Club—conveniently located inside security with more than 10,500 square feet with sweeping views of the tarmac.

■ Awarded the "People's Voice" Webby Award in the "Business and Finance" category for reimagined mobile app, which debuted earlier this year.

■ Partnered with luxury skincare line Sunday Riley on new United Polaris amenity kits.

■ Awarded the Crystal Cabin Award for Inflight Entertainment and Connectivity for new onboard entertainment.

■ Received IDG's CIO 100 Award for innovative customer volunteer solicitation program.

Operations

■ Served nearly 43 million passengers, the most ever for United in the second quarter.

■ Achieved top-tier on-time departures rate performance versus the major U.S. airlines, despite headwinds caused by unusually high weather and ATC delays.

■ For the second quarter United had the second-best completion factor and the second fewest cancellations among the major U.S. airlines. (PR)

Bank of Guam announces new Guam branch hours

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam announces the following Guam branch hours effective Monday, August 19, 2019:

Monday – Thursday

9am-4pm Hagatna, Tamuning, Mangilao, Tumon, Upper Tumon, Yigo, Dededo, Harmon, Hagatna Drive-Up and Tumon Drive Up, Loan Platform, Loan Support, Loan Adjustment, Card Services, and Trust Department

Monday – Thursday 9am-3pm Malesso, Naval Station and Andersen

Friday

9am-6pm All Guam Branches & Departments

Saturday

9am-1pm Hagatna, Upper Tumon, Dededo



Cook

changing too. Over the years, we've made investments in our digital banking capabilities to deliver many of the same services that our branches offer, only with greater accessibility and convenience. Our Online Banking and Mobile App make it easy for you to bank from anywhere, anytime—so you can spend less time "in line" and more time doing what you love. Our commitment to enhancing digital services is not a onetime event, but

a continuous process to meet the ever-changing needs of our customers. This change is another step towards building the best digital banking experience for our customers, supported by the personal touch and expertise of our branch staff that our communities expect."

For more information, contact: Jackie Marati at (672) 472-5258 or jackie.marati@bankofguam.com. (PR)

Joaquin Cook, Bank of Guam president and CEO stated, "As financial needs and habits change, we're

Nation

In some states, GOP sees the recall as its way back to power

DENVER (AP)—Republicans frustrated by losing their grip on political power in some Western states have begun deploying a new weapon: the recall.

Once reserved for targeting corrupt or inept elected officials, the recall has become part of the toolkit for Republicans seeking a do-over of election results. One GOP strategist in Colorado has put a name to it—"recall season."

To be sure, Democrats also have used recalls, most notably in Wisconsin, where they tried unsuccessfully to oust then-Republican Gov. Scott Walker in 2012 over his actions to weaken public sector unions.

But Republicans have been mounting recall efforts against Democratic state lawmakers and governors at an unprecedented rate over the past two years in a handful of Western states, at the same time their political fortunes in those states have been declining.

In 2018, they recalled a freshman state senator in California as a way to temporarily undo a Democratic supermajority.

The same year in Nevada, two Democratic lawmakers and an allied independent fended off recall attempts.

In Oregon, Republicans are pursuing a recall of Democratic Gov. Kate Brown, who was re-elected last year, after

In key Senate races, Democrats buck leftward tilt on issues

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—MJ Hegar, the leading U.S. Senate challenger in Texas, rides a Harley-Davidson in viral videos and has called herself "an ass-kicking, motorcycle-riding Texas Democrat."

She is not a Democrat who promotes "Medicare for All." She mentions that during a narrow loss for a House seat last year, her campaign signs appeared in front yards that also had ones for Republicans. And she sees unintended consequences with White House candidates who say they'll decriminalize border crossings.

The concern, Hegar says, is "tying the hands of law enforcement."

It doesn't take a biker jacket to show that Democratic candidates in some key states in the 2020 Senate race aren't going along as much of the party's presidential field takes a hard liberal turn. Big gaps already are apparent in races in Texas, Iowa and Arizona. The latest discordant voice is Amy McGrath of Kentucky, a former Marine combat aviator running against Senate Major-



In this frame grab of an April 11, 2019, video provided by Ben Engen of Denver-based Constellation Political Consulting, Engen, a Republican consultant, conducts a training session on how to organize and execute recall campaigns against elected Democratic lawmakers for a group of GOP activists in Buena Vista, Colo.

GOP lawmakers walked out of the Senate to try to block votes on climate change and education bills.

Colorado, where Democrats control both houses of the legislature and the governor's office, is seeing its highest level of recall activity since 2013,

when two Democratic lawmakers lost their seats for supporting gun control legislation and a third facing recall resigned.

Recall campaigns are targeting Democratic Gov. Jared Polis, two Democratic state House members and

two Democrats in the state Senate. Recall committees have been formed for other lawmakers, and the GOP's top-ranking officials have encouraged the efforts.

U.S. Rep. Ken Buck, newly elected as chairman of the Colorado Republican Party, told supporters earlier this year, "We need to teach them how to spell R-E-C-A-L-L."

Colorado recall proponents

accused their targets of overreach on issues of gun control, climate change, taxes, sex education and the electoral college—issues that many of the Democrats ran on during their successful campaigns.

Karen Kateline, a talk show host working on the Polis effort, insists that she and other Republicans aren't abusing the original misconduct intent

for recalls.

"Nobody is putting the brakes on these people," she said of Democrats.

"It's our constitutional right to recall," insisted Nancy Pallozzi, a Republican from the Denver suburb of Lakewood, who is leading an effort against state Sen. Brittany Pettersen. "We can't wait for new (GOP) candidates to be vetted for the next election. Three more years for the governor? And three more years for Brittany? No."

Democrats see the recalls as a blatant attempt to undo the results of the most recent elections, which produced a Democratic wave in several Western states.

Matt Harringer, spokesman for the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, has a simple label for the Republicans pursuing the recall attempts—"sore losers." The committee, which gets involved in state legislative races, has dedicated \$135,000 to help fight the Colorado recall attempts.

"Republicans are definitely on the decline in the West, and Colorado is the leader of that," Harringer said. "We don't think there's a huge appetite to recall legislators who are doing what they said they would do."

Nevertheless, Republicans see it as a worthy strategy. The Colorado Republican Party started months ago offering training sessions for what GOP consultant Ben Engen calls "recall season."



ACROSS THE NATION

Coroner: 2 workers who died in grain silo suffocated

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP)—A coroner says two men who died after they were trapped in a silo filled with grain in Ohio suffocated. The Blade in Toledo reports Lucas County's coroner has ruled the deaths as accidental. The coroner identified the men who died Friday in the silo operated by The Andersons company in Toledo as 29-year-old Joshua Stone, of Rossford, and 56-year-old James Heilman, of Perrysburg. Coroner Dr. Diane Scala-Barnett said the men were breaking up compacted grain when it's believed they came upon an air pocket, causing grain to collapse around and on them. Toledo fire crews responded Friday morning and spent nearly two hours trying to reach the men. A statement released by The Andersons said the company was shaken by the deaths and working with authorities to investigate.

Man whose wife was struck and killed by vehicle sues FBI

NORTH HAVEN, Conn. (AP)—A Connecticut man says in a \$35 million lawsuit filed against the federal government that an off-duty police officer who struck and killed his wife with a vehicle last year worked for the FBI at the time. The New Haven Register reports that Edward Wilczynski, of North Haven, whose

wife, Kristin, was fatally struck in Hamden last July, filed the federal lawsuit last week. The complaint alleges the driver, Courtney Bothwell, a Hamden officer working as a Task Force Officer for the FBI, was driving a vehicle leased by the bureau. Wilczynski alleges the driver was careless, reckless and negligent. The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Public Affairs declined comment when contacted by the paper. Bothwell told responding officers she was distracted by a puppy in her vehicle.

Great white shark leaps from water to snatch fish off line

ORLEANS, Mass. (AP)—A family fishing in Cape Cod Bay had an up close and personal encounter with a great white shark that leaped out of the water to snatch a fish they had caught right off the line. Doug Nelson, of Franklin, who caught the leaping shark on video on Saturday, told New England Cable News it "gave us a pretty good scare." His son Jack can be seen on the video jumping back as the shark breaches the water's surface. The Atlantic White Shark Conservancy confirmed it was a great white, as did Marc Costa, captain of the Orleans-based Columbia Sportfishing vessel. Costa said the boat was about three miles west of Great Island in Wellfleet when the shark made its leap.

Asia

Clashes involving Hong Kong's protest movement grow violent

HONG KONG (AP)—Clashes involving Hong Kong's protest movement escalated violently late Sunday as police launched tear gas at protesters who didn't disband after a massive march and subway riders were attacked by masked assailants who appeared to target the pro-democracy demonstrators.

The firing of tear gas was the latest confrontation between police and protesters who have taken to the streets for almost two months to fight a proposed extradition bill and call for electoral reforms in the Chinese territory.

The march had been peace-

ful when it reached its police-designated end point in Hong Kong's Wan Chai district in the late afternoon, but thousands continued onward, at various points occupying key government and business districts. They then headed for the Liaison Office, which represents China's Communist Party-led central government within the city.

Protesters threw eggs at the building and spray-painted its surrounding surveillance cameras. China's national emblem, which adorns the front of the Liaison Office, was splattered with black ink. The Liaison Office said in

comments published on Chinese state media that the acts "openly challenged the authority of the central government and touched the bottom line of the 'one country, two systems' principle."

Later, police threw tear gas canisters at protesters to try to disperse them. Protesters scattered, some heading back in the direction of a key business and retail district. Police remained in place, protecting themselves with shields. Police said on their official social media accounts that protesters

threw bricks and petrol bombs at them and attacked the Central police station.

Hong Kong media released video showing masked assailants attacking commuters in a subway station. Among those attacked were protesters clad in their trademark black clothing and yellow hard hats.

The attackers, meanwhile, were dressed in white with black masks pulled over their heads. On Saturday, demonstrators wore white at a counter-rally in support of police.

Footage from Apple Daily

showed the attackers using umbrellas to beat people in the station and inside a subway car. Subway passengers filmed by Stand News and iCABLE angrily accused police officers of not intervening in the attack. Stand News reporter Gwyneth Ho said on Facebook that she suffered minor injuries to her hands and shoulder, and was dizzy from a head injury. The South China Morning Post reported several people were bleeding following the attacks, and

that seven people were sent to the hospital.

The Hong Kong government said in a statement shortly after midnight that commuters were attacked at a subway station in the city's Yuen Long neighborhood, leading to "confrontations and injuries."

The statement also said some "radical protesters initiated a series of violent acts ... despite repeated warnings" by police. They said the acts included hurling petrol bombs, setting fires and throwing bricks.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Amid protests, Duterte to address Congress led by his allies

MANILA, Philippines

(AP)—President Rodrigo Duterte is to address a joint session of the Philippine Congress where his allies have greater control to press for his priorities like reinstating the death penalty and amending the pro-democracy constitution. Duterte will deliver his state of the nation address at the House of Representatives on Monday, while thousands of protesters are to mass outside to call for his removal over a range of issues, including his brutal anti-drug campaign in which thousands of people have died. Military and police have been placed on full alert. Duterte is expected to declare he will press on with his anti-drug crackdown despite international alarm. He said he would "educate" critics by explaining why his handling of territorial disputes with China in the South China Sea doesn't violate the constitution.

Police say man who stabbed Hong Kong actor is schizophrenic

BEIJING (AP)—Police in southern China said the man who stabbed veteran Hong Kong actor Simon Yam at an event suffers from paranoid schizophrenia. A 53-year-old man, surnamed Chen, was detained following the attack in the Zhongshan Huoju Development Zone in Guangdong province, police said Saturday evening. Chen rushed the stage and stabbed the 64-year-old actor with a fruit knife during an opening celebration for a business venue where Yam was invited to speak. Yam underwent a minor operation at a hospital in Zhongshan

city, his manager Lester Mo said. "He was stabbed in the tummy area and also got a cut on his right hand," Mo said. He was still being treated for injuries to the four fingers of his right hand. Yam, who is also known by his Chinese name Yam Tat-wah, has appeared in more than 125 movies and 40 television series. He played the villain Chen Lo in the 2003 Hollywood film "Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life."

Pakistani hospital hit by female suicide bomber, 9 killed

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan

(AP)—A female suicide bomber struck outside a hospital in Pakistan on Sunday as the wounded were being brought in from an earlier shooting against police, in a complex assault claimed by the Pakistani Taliban that killed a total of nine people and wounded another 30. Salim Riaz Khan, a senior police officer in Dera Ismail Khan, said gunmen on motorcycles opened fire on police in a residential area, killing two. He says the bomber then struck at the entrance to the hospital, killing another four police and three civilians who were visiting their relatives. He said eight police were among the wounded, and that many of the wounded were in critical condition. Inayat Ullah, a local forensics expert, said the female attacker set off 7 kilograms (15 pounds) of explosives packed with nails and ball-bearings. The blast damaged the emergency room and forced it to shut down, according to a hospital official, who said the wounded were taken to a military hospital. The official spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal.



AP
Medical workers help a protester in pain from tear gas fired by policemen on a street in Hong Kong, Sunday, July 21, 2019.

Abe's coalition still short of votes to change constitution

TOKYO (AP)—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's ruling coalition secured a majority in Japan's upper house of parliament in elections Sunday, but it lost ground and will not reach the super-majority needed to propose constitutional revisions, according to vote counts by public television and other media.

NHK public television said Abe's Liberal Democratic Party and its junior partner Komeito won 69 seats with nine remaining to be decided after midnight. If Abe gained support from members of another conservative party and independents, he would reach 76, still short of the 85 needed, NHK said.

Abe's ruling bloc has a super-majority of two-thirds of the seats in the lower chamber, but Sunday's results mean he has a slimmer chance of achieving his long-cherished goal of reforming Japan's postwar pacifist constitution before his term ends in 2021.

Nonetheless, Abe wel-

comed the results, saying winning the majority means the public's mandate for his government.

"I believe the people chose political stability, urging us to pursue our policies and carry out diplomacy to protect Japan's national interests," Abe told an interview with NHK. He was at his party's election headquarters where he monitored results, placing red ribbons on winners' names written on a panel.

Up for grabs were 124 seats in the less powerful of Japan's two parliamentary chambers. There are 245 seats in the upper house—which does not choose the prime minister—about half of which are elected every three years.

Media surveys had indicated Abe's ruling bloc would keep a majority, with most voters considering it a safer choice over an opposition with an uncertain track record.

Two-thirds of both houses must approve a constitu-

tional revision before the revision can be decided in a national referendum.

His goal was already a challenge because voters are more concerned about their jobs, economy and social security. Abe, who wants to bolster Japanese defense capability and role, is now proposing adding the Self-Defense Force, or Japan's military, in the war-renouncing Article 9 of the constitution. Abe said he plans to start from deepening discussion at parliamentary constitutional review board. He said he is not considering running for another term.

Abe said resolving the decades-old issue of Japanese citizens abducted to North Korea and signing a peace treaty with Russia would be his diplomatic priorities during the rest of his term.

Main opposition parties have focused on concerns over household finances, such as the impact from an upcoming 10% sales tax increase and

strains on the public pension system amid Japan's aging population, while also trying to block Abe's ambition for a constitutional change.

Abe has led his Liberal Democratic Party to five consecutive parliamentary election victories since 2012. He has prioritized revitalizing Japan's economy and has steadily bolstered the country's defenses in the backdrop of North Korea's missile and nuclear threats and China's growing military presence. He also has cultivated warm ties with President Donald Trump.

The main opposition Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan and three other liberal-leaning parties teamed up in some districts. They stressed support for gender equality and LGBT issues—areas Abe's ultra-conservative lawmakers are reluctant to back.

At a polling station in Tokyo's Chuo district on Sunday, voters were divided over Abe's 6 1/2-year rule.

World

US notes advance in Mexican migration enforcement

MEXICO CITY (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo acknowledged Sunday that Mexico has made progress on migration enforcement, while expressing hope that El Salvador can stem the tide of migrants north from that Central American country.

Pompeo spent the morning with Mexican Foreign Secretary Marcelo in Mexico City before flying to a meeting with El Salvador's president.

Ebrard said in a statement that Pompeo noted "significant" advances in Mexico's efforts to curb migration. Record numbers of migrants, especially Central Americans, have made their way through Mexico in recent months in an effort to start new lives in the U.S.

Given the advances, Ebrard said Mexico sees no need to negotiate a "safe third country" agreement with Washington that would require migrants to apply for asylum in Mexico rather than in the U.S.

State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortugus said in a statement that the two top diplomats discussed their countries' "shared efforts to stop illegal immigration."

During the meeting, she said, Pompeo thanked Ebrard for Mexico's "increased immigration enforcement efforts, which initial indications suggest is leading to reduced flows of illegal immigrants arriving at the U.S. southern border."

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security reported a 28% drop last month in the



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo reacts as El Salvador's President Nayib Bukele speaks at the Presidential House in San Salvador, El Salvador, Sunday, July 21, 2019.

number of migrants encountered by Customs and Border Protection at the U.S.-Mexico border compared to May.

Some attribute the decrease to increased enforcement in Mexico, combined with the country's participation in a program that sends asylum seekers back into Mexico to await the outcome of their claims in the U.S.

The meeting between Pompeo and Ebrard came at the halfway point of a 90-day span during which Mexico has agreed to reduce migration across its territory toward the U.S. border as part of a deal that headed off stiff tariffs on Mexican goods threatened by U.S. President Donald Trump.

Since then, Mexican officials say they have increased

migration enforcement along the southern and northern borders, while deporting hundreds of Central Americans each week by plane.

On other matters, Ortugus said the ministers discussed the new North American free trade agreement. The Mexican Senate approved the deal in June, but Democratic legislators in the U.S. have threatened to block it.

And the foreign ministry

said Ebrard suggested that the U.S. and Mexico work together to recover the assets of Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzmán, who was sentenced to life in prison in the U.S. last week.

A U.S. judge ordered Guzmán to pay \$12.6 billion as part of his U.S. life sentence announced Wednesday.

Mexican President Andres Manuel López Obrador said Thursday that the money is

Mexican and that he will seek its return to the country, through court action if necessary.

The foreign ministry said Ebrard also asked for help to stem the flow of weapons trafficked into Mexico from the U.S.

As the motorcade carrying Pompeo departed, a lawyer for Guzmán jumped in front of a vehicle with a hand-painted sign that read: "Chapo's Money, No USA, Yes Mexico."

The driver of a black Suburban tapped Guzmán's lawyer three times with the SUV's front grill before a Mexican official pulled the lawyer away.

Speaking to reporters, lawyer Jose Luis González said Guzmán wants his money to be distributed among Mexico's poor, rather than confiscated by the U.S. government. The lawyer is also fighting for Guzmán's extradition back to Mexico.

Pompeo arrived in El Salvador later Sunday for a meeting with President Nayib Bukele, who agreed to cooperate on counter-narcotics efforts.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Bukele said he would rather receive U.S. investment and assistance in fighting criminal groups than aid.

El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras make up Central America's so-called Northern Triangle, the source of most of the wave of migrants and asylum seekers who have sought to make it to the United States this year, to escape violence and poverty back home.

Ukraine president's party buoyed by exit poll after election

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's party was headed to win the biggest share of votes in the Ukraine's snap parliamentary election, according to an exit poll Sunday, but it was unclear if the party nailed down a solid majority in the legislature.

The poll of 13,000 voters showed Servant of the People getting 43.9% of the vote for party-list candidates, far ahead of rivals. But 199 of the 424 seats being filled were for single constituencies, which the poll didn't assess.

Overall, five parties cleared the 5% threshold necessary to get party-list seats, according to the poll. In all, the parties got less than 80% of the overall vote, suggesting that Zelenskyy's party was likely to win a majority of the party-list seats.

The vote count was proceeding slowly, with less than

1% of the polling stations' results tallied 3 ½ hours after voting ended.

Nonetheless, Zelenskyy was buoyed by the exit poll's findings.

"This shows great trust by the people of Ukraine to our party," he said.

He said "the main priorities for us and for every Ukrainian are the stopping of war, the return of our prisoners and victory over the corruption that remains in Ukraine."

Zelenskyy, who took office in May, called the election three months ahead of schedule because the parliament was dominated by his opponents. He is seeking a majority that would support his promised fight against Ukraine's endemic corruption and for other reforms.

His Servant of the People party is named after the television comedy in which he

played a teacher who unexpectedly becomes president.

After voting, Zelenskyy said one of the new parliament's first tasks should be to consider lifting parliament members' immunity from prosecution.

A party led by one of Russian President Vladimir Putin's closest associates, tycoon Viktor Medvedchuk, was in second with 11.5% of the vote, according to the exit poll. It was followed by the European Solidarity party of former President Petro Poroshenko, whom Zelenskyy defeated in a landslide in the country's spring presidential election.

Zelenskyy's party intends to continue a pro-Western course toward joining the European Union and NATO, combining this with economic reforms and an intensified fight against endemic corruption.

Brazil leader criticizes agency over deforestation report

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro again criticized a state agency that monitors the Amazon, saying Sunday that its latest report on increased deforestation damages Brazil's reputation amid what he says is an "environmental psychosis" overseas about environmental protection in South America's biggest nation.

The INPE agency says preliminary satellite data indicate more than 1,000 square kilometers (386 square miles) of forest were lost during the first half of July, an increase of 68% from the loss in the same period last year.

Bolsonaro said the agency should coordinate such reports with higher officials in the administration, which supports loosening regulations on use

of the Amazon. "But to publish them in one simple way, as it was done, leaves Brazil in a complicated situation," the far-right president told the G1 news site.

His government has drawn criticism from environmentalists, and Norway and Germany have raised the possibility of cancelling the Amazon Fund, which was created in 2008 to raise donations to help Brazil fight deforestation in the Amazon.

Brazilian Cabinet ministers have recently back at the critics, and in a recent exchange with a foreign journalist Bolsonaro said: "The Amazon is Brazil's not yours. You destroyed your ecosystems, and only are claiming from us."

The president's comments Sunday about INPE came two

days after he questioned the reliability of the agency's data and said he felt the body was working "at the service of some non-governmental organization" and not for Brazil.

Agency head Ricard Galvao disputed both points in an interview published Saturday by the newspaper Estado de Sao Paulo.

Galvao said it was offensive to suggest the data are manipulated, noting the numbers are made public and published in international scientific journals.

He also said he works for no one but Brazil. "I never had any relationship with any non-governmental organization. I never received payments from outside. I never received anything other than my salary as a public servant," he said.

Focus

Audit: Hospitals put Native Americans at risk with opioids

By FELICIA FONSECA
ASSOCIATED PRESS



In this Oct. 14, 2008, a small child walks toward the front door of the Public Health Service Indian Hospital on the Standing Rock Reservation in Fort Yates, N.D. A federal audit released Monday, July 22, 2019, finds that government hospitals placed Native Americans at increased risk for opioid abuse and overdoses. The audit says a handful of Indian Health Service hospitals, including the Fort Yates Hospital, failed to follow the agency's protocols for dispensing and prescribing the drug. The Indian Health Service agreed with the more than a dozen recommendations and says changes are in the works. AP

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)—Government hospitals placed Native American patients at increased risk for opioid abuse and overdoses, failing to follow their own protocols for prescribing and dispensing the drugs, according to a federal audit released Monday.

The report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General doesn't draw any conclusions about actual abuse or overdoses. But it said all five Indian Health Service hospitals it reviewed had patients who were given opioids in amounts that exceeded federal guidelines.

"There are vulnerabilities with this particular population in the opioid prescribing and dispensing practices," said Carla Lewis, one of the auditors.

The overdose epidemic that has killed more people than any other drug epidemic in U.S. history has hit indigenous communities hard. Native Americans and Alaska Natives had the second-highest rate of opioid overdose out of all racial and ethnic groups in 2017, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The report made more than a dozen recommendations to the Indian Health Service to

better track patients' health records and pain management, ensure opioids are kept under tighter security and update its information technology systems. The agency agreed on every point and said changes are coming.

The Indian Health Service, the federal agency that administers primary health care for Native Americans, has put an increased focus on opioids lately with a new website and the creation of a committee focused on decreasing overdose deaths, promoting culturally appropriate treatments and ensuring that communities know how to respond.

The audit covered five of the 25 hospitals directly run by the Indian Health Service: the Phoenix Indian Medical Center in Phoenix; Northern Navajo Medical Center on the Navajo Nation in Shiprock, New Mexico; the Lawton Indian Hospital in Lawton, Oklahoma; the Cass Lake Indian Hospital on the Leech Lake reservation in Cass Lake,

Minnesota; and the Fort Yates Hospital on the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in Fort Yates, North Dakota.

Auditors considered the amount of opioids each hospital dispensed and the percentage increase over three years when deciding which ones to review. They looked at 30 patient records at each hospital, visited the facilities and interviewed staff.

They found the hospitals strayed from the Indian Health Manual in reviewing treatment for patients and their causes of pain every three months. Patients also must sign a written consent form and an agreement to treat chronic pain with opioids so they know the risks and benefits, as well as the requirement for drug screenings. More than 100 patient records didn't have informed consent, and dozens didn't have evidence that providers adequately educated patients.

The Centers for Disease Control recommends that patients be prescribed no more

than 90 morphine milligram equivalents per day, a measure used to compare an opioid dose with morphine. The audit found that each hospital met or exceeded that amount at times. At the Shiprock hospital, the daily dosage was more than four times as high. The auditors also found some patients were prescribed opioids and benzodiazepines—commonly used to treat anxiety and insomnia—at the same time, which "puts patients at a greater risk of a potentially fatal overdose."

The Indian Health Service said it implemented a tool to track the dosages, and all of its facilities reported data in the first quarter of 2019.

Among the report's other findings:

- More than two dozen records showed no evidence patients were screened for drugs with a urine test when they started opioid treatment and periodically after. Providers didn't have an alert system to know when patients were due.

The Phoenix hospital has since implemented one.

- Pharmacists are supposed to review patients' files before filling prescriptions from an outside provider, but that wasn't being done at four of the hospitals. In one case, Fort Yates filled a prescription from an outside provider despite the hospital discontinuing treatment because the patient violated a pain management agreement. The Indian Health Service said it would issue a directive in December for prescribers to track that information.

- Only the Lawton hospital had opioids secured in a storage cabinet that requires employee authentication to access. One photo attached to the report showed the combination to a safe on the safe itself. The Indian Health Service said it has revised its manual to require opioids awaiting pickup to be locked up.

- Agreements with their states require that hospitals report daily on opioid prescrip-

tions that are filled so patients don't seek the drugs from multiple providers at the same time. Fort Yates and Phoenix now are complying. The Indian Health Service said the reporting would be automated by June 2020.

At all hospitals, auditors noted that providers didn't always review the data before seeing new patients or during the time they were taking opioids for chronic pain.

"Part of it is to ensure the holistic approach of providing care," Lewis said.

Hospital officials and providers often said they were overwhelmed by the number of patients or couldn't control how regularly they came in — sometimes due to the long distances between patients' homes and the hospitals.

Lewis said auditors try to be reasonable in their requests. "We try to make recommendations that are going to be actionable and cost-effective for an organization," she said.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW: What's old is new in the all-new 2020 Hyundai Palisade

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho—Times change, but great ideas never do.

Consider portable music, which is far from a new idea. In 1924, Zenith introduced the first portable radio, although few today would consider it that today. In subsequent decades came the pocket size transistor radio, the Sony Walkman and the iPod. Now most people carry around their music on a smartphone.

Basic ideas rarely change. What does is the technology or design that completes the idea.

Consider our current fascination with SUVs and crossovers, family-friendly transportation that counts seven-passenger sedans, station wagons and minivans as predecessors. They all offer three rows of seating, two of which fold flat for cargo hauling, contained in a cargo-friendly box-like shape. Dull but dependable, they are essential for the mundane tasks of daily life. What they lack

in glamour they make up for in usefulness, like the 2020 Hyundai Palisade.

OK, maybe that's unfair, for the Palisade has presence, if merely from its size, bold grille and interlocking light design. Crisply chiseled, it looks confident while retaining the scent of civility and a dollop of wackiness; just checkout the bright work that accents the side windows.

And while it effectively updates the Santa Fe XL it replaces, it also employs a new old idea: the Atkinson Cycle engine. Invented by Englishman James Atkinson in 1882, it uses fuel more efficiently than a conventional engine but generates less power as a result. (This is why it's commonly used on modern gas-electric hybrid vehicles, where the electric motors can make up for an power deficit.)

The Palisade's 3.8-liter V-6 switches between Atkinson and Otto cycles to improve fuel efficiency or provide more power. For instance, highway cruising may find it in the former mode, while towing would require the latter. Rated at 291-horsepower, it's mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission that funnels its power to the front wheels or all four. Towing is rated at 5,000 pounds. A transmission cooler, trailer pre-wiring and sway control are standard. Regardless, you'll never notice it switching modes, but you will notice its fuel efficiency. This big boy returns 19 mpg city, 26 mpg highway with front-wheel drive.

Acceleration is more than adequate for the task at hand, although the smooth-shifting transmission seems reluctant to downshift most of the

time. Hyundai provides a number of driving modes, with the Sport driving mode enhancing the fun-to-drive factor, but this is not what you'd call the driving enthusiast's choice. It is, perhaps, the family commuter's choice. It's an easy vehicle to drive smoothly, and the interior is exceptionally quiet—more so than most vehicles of any kind.

The MacPherson strut front suspension, multi-link rear suspension, and front and rear stabilizer bars return an exceptionally balanced ride/handling compromise. The steering has a modicum of road feel, nicely weighted and progressive in feel. The ride is so compliant you won't notice most road irregularities, such as washboard surfaces, as there's little body lean or excess body motion in corners. It's an easy car to drive smoothly. Best of all, the inte-

rior is exceptionally quiet — more so than most vehicles of any kind.

The Palisade is loaded with little conveniences meant to outdo its competition. Some you might expect, like the second row seats fitted with heat and ventilation, the power-folding third-row seats or standard Android Auto and Apple CarPlay. Others are unexpected. There's a one-touch button that moves the second-row seat to allow third-row access. Then there's the Qi wireless charging pad, and the in-car intercom system that allows the driver to speak directly to the second or third rows through the audio system speakers. The system includes a rear seat quiet mode that allows the front seat occupants to listen to their music without it being transmitted through

the second- and third-row speakers.

Although the driver's seat felt firm, flat and uncomfortable, it was otherwise difficult to not to be impressed.

Certainly the 2020 Hyundai Palisade checks all the boxes in a way the Santa Fe XL couldn't, with roomy three-row seating, a punchy yet fuel efficient engine, smooth driving experience, an excellent infotainment system, and enough USB ports to charge the mobile phones of the local football team, as well as up-to-date connectivity.

It's very much the exceptional, eager student. Hard working and eager to please, what it lacks in personality it more than makes up in its ability to serve—an idea as old as humanity.

In fact, it's so darn handy, you might want to call it Jeeves.

TK NUTS & BOLTS

2020 Hyundai Palisade

- Base price: \$31,550-\$46,400
- Engine: 3.8-liter Atkinson Cycle V-6
- Horsepower/Torque: 291/262 pound-feet @5,200 RPM
- EPA fuel economy (city/highway): 19/24 mpg
- Fuel required: Regular
- Wheelbase/Length/Width: 114.2/196.1/77.8 inches
- Cargo capacity: 18-86.4 cubic feet
- Curb weight: 34,127 pounds



TNS
The 2020 Hyundai Palisade.

Under the Hood: Don't ignore signs of engine trouble

Q: My 2006 Buick Allure runs great except for one thing. When I accelerate, particularly going uphill, it will sputter off and on, like a hiccup or trying to clear its throat. No stalls or losing power. My husband says to ignore it, but I'd like a second opinion!

— Betty W.

A: This symptom warrants further investigation! Whenever an engine runs incorrectly, it's likely exhaust emissions will rise, fuel economy will fall, and there can be a slight chance of damage to either the engine or catalytic converter. A cylinder misfire, for example, dramatically increases

hydrocarbon emissions and reduces power/efficiency; if severe, it can turn the inside of your expensive catalytic converter into a volcano! Cylinder wall lubrication may also be washed away by a continuous misfire, shortening engine life.

A surge/stumble could be caused by erroneous sensor signals, leading to an incorrect air/fuel mixture and/or incorrect ignition timing. This could also result in engine damage. I recall a friend whose son bought a used vehicle from an unscrupulous seller. The check engine light had been disabled, masking an issue (faulty mass airflow sensor) that led to major engine damage due to abnormal com-

bustion (detonation).

Have you noticed the Service Engine Soon (Check Engine) light illuminating? Most faults should be identified by the engine management system, and in addition to the light a diagnostic trouble code will be set (very helpful for diagnosis). The key to getting a problem like this resolved is to be able to demonstrate the symptom to the technician, ideally during a joint road test. A cell phone video (taken by passenger) showing speed, conditions and instrument readings, with sounds and narration, could also be of great value.

I hope I didn't alarm you excessively; my concerns about damage are slight. It's just a

shame when trouble can be avoided and isn't.

■ ■ ■

I just came across a study performed by AAA regarding vehicle escape tools, and the information is certainly worth sharing:

Many people have purchased tools that can be used to shatter a window, allowing escape from the vehicle in the event of fire or submersion. What may not be known is that a growing number of newer vehicles are equipped with laminated safety glass, rather than tempered glass, on the front/side and possibly rear windows. Laminated glass stays together when broken, like a sticky spider web, rather than crumbling into

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
Tribune News Service

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at bradbergholdt@gmail.com; he cannot make personal replies.



small pieces like tempered glass, rendering these tools ineffective in creating an escape path! Laminated glass is used because it provides additional protection from passenger ejection and foreign objects penetrating the vehicle. Windshields have been constructed like this for many decades. In most cases one or more windows, typically a rear, is still tempered, allowing a tool-initiated escape. Close inspection of the small print on

each window indicates the construction type.

Vehicle owners should identify their window type and formulate an escape plan in advance of an incident. AAA's research also showed the spring-loaded tools worked better than the hammer type, particularly if one was submerged in water. They also recommend forgoing tools with unnecessary additional features.

Life & Style

Suspect in Japan anime studio arson reportedly had grudge

TOKYO (AP)—The man suspected of setting ablaze a beloved Japanese animation studio, killing 34 people, was raging about theft and witnesses and media reported he had a grudge against the company, as questions arose why such mass killings keep happening in the country.

Police only have said the suspect Shinji Aoba, 41, who is hospitalized with severe burns and unable to talk, is from near Tokyo and did not work for the studio, Kyoto Animation.

Japanese broadcaster NHK said the death toll rose to 34 on Saturday after one of the injured died in a hospital. Aoba was meanwhile transferred to another hospital specializing in

treating burns. Footage showed medics carrying Aoba on a stretcher, connected to multiple tubes and part of his exposed skin swollen and pink.

NHK and other media, quoting an unnamed source, said that Aoba spent 3 ½ years in prison for robbing a convenience store in 2012 and lived on government support. The man told police that he set the fire because he thought “(Kyoto Animation) stole novels,” according to Japanese media. It was unclear if he had contacted the studio earlier.

The company founded in 1981 and better known as Kyo-Ani made a mega-hit anime series about high school girls and trained aspirants to the craft.

The shocking attack left an-

other 34 people injured, some critically. It drew an outpouring of grief for the dead and injured, most of them workers at the studio.

Kyoto prefectural police chief Hideto Ueda solemnly laid flowers at the site, now a charcoal shell, vowing for the utmost in the investigation to find motives behind the attack, which he described as “unprecedented and unforgivable.”

While shooting deaths are rare in Japan, the country has had a series of high-profile killings in recent years. Less than two months ago, a man described as a social recluse, or “hikikomori,” stabbed a number of private school children at a bus stop outside Tokyo, killing two people and wound-

ing 17 before killing himself. In 2016, a former employee at a home for the disabled allegedly killed 19 people and injured more than 20.

Nobuo Komiya, a Risho University criminology professor, calls the attacks “suicidal terrorism,” in which attackers typically see themselves as losers and target their anger on the society, often those who seem happy and successful.

“Feeling angry at people who they think are winners, they tend to choose privileged people as targets,” Komiya said. “They think they have nothing to lose, they don’t care if they get caught or if they die.”

They are part of a growing trend that reflects a change in

the Japanese society, where disparities are growing and ties among families, community and other groups have weakened and people are less obligated to follow the rules and be part of it, he said. “Japan shouldn’t be complacent about its safety anymore. We should follow the U.S. and Europe and do more for risk management.”

About 70 people were working inside the three-story Kyoto Animation No. 1 studio in southern Kyoto, Japan’s ancient capital, at the time of the attack.

The arsonist arrived carrying two containers of flammable liquid. He shouted, “You die!” as he entered the studio’s unlocked front door, dumped the liquid using a bucket, and set it afire with a lighter, police

said, quoting witnesses. Police at the scene confiscated the gasoline tanks, a knapsack and knives, but have not confirmed they belonged to the attacker. A Kyoto police official declined to speculate how Aoba prepared the attack, saying he wanted the man to explain himself, as well as his motives.

The blaze blocked the front door and quickly engulfed the workspace, rising up the stairs to the third floor, sending panicked employees fleeing. Some were able to escape by crawling out of windows, with the help of neighbors. Many tried but failed to escape to the roof, fire officials said. Most of the victims are believed to have died of carbon monoxide poisoning, experts say.

ESPN reasserts political talk policy after attack on Trump

NEW YORK (AP)—ESPN is making sure that its employees know there is not change in the network’s policy to avoid talking about politics unless it intersects with sports after radio talk show host Dan Le Batard criticized President Donald Trump and his recent racist comments and ESPN itself on the air this week.

The reminder went out Friday to all employees, including Le Batard, according to an ESPN employee who spoke on condition of anonymity Saturday because the person was not authorized to speak publicly about personnel matters.

ESPN has not spoken publicly about Le Batard’s comments, including whether he faces any disciplinary action.

Reached on Saturday, Le Batard also declined comment.

For ESPN, the episode raises comparisons to what happened following anti-Trump tweets by its former anchor Jemele Hill nearly two years

ago. Following that case, and criticism among some conservatives about left-leaning remarks on ESPN’s air, network president Jimmy Pitaro decreed that its employees should avoid political talk unless they’re reporting on issues raised by sports figures.

Le Batard spoke in the wake of the president’s rally in North Carolina, where Trump renewed his attacks on four Democratic congresswomen of color, prompting a chant from his audience of “send her back” directed at U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar, of Minnesota. The ESPN host said he found the attacks on Omar to be un-American and deeply offensive, and that it was wrong of Trump to seek re-election by dividing people.

“We here at ESPN don’t have the stomach for the fight,” Le Batard said. “We don’t talk about what is happening unless there is some sort of weak, cowardly sports angle that we can run it through.”

Netflix subscriber drop hints at streaming-service fatigue

NEW YORK (AP)—How much is too much for streaming video?

A dramatic slowdown in worldwide growth at Netflix—including the first quarterly drop in its U.S. subscribers since 2011—is raising questions about just how much are people willing to pay for streaming services. Especially with a host of new ones from Disney, Apple and others on their way.

A recent price increase seems to have spooked Netflix subscribers. The company lost 126,000 subscribers in the

U.S., less than 1% of its 60.1 million paid U.S. subscriptions, during the April-June period. Its most popular plan rose from \$11 to \$13 in a U.S. price hike announced in January and rolled out for many subscribers during the second quarter. Worldwide, the service picked up 2.7 million worldwide subscribers, far below Netflix’s forecast of 5 million.

“Netflix raising prices prompted people to think about whether they were getting value for money,” Wedbush analyst Michael Pachter said.



German Foreign Minister Heiko Mass, left, and Italian Culture Minister Alberto Bonisoli watch the unveiling of the “Vase of Flowers” painting by Jan van Huysum, at the Pitti Palace, part of the Uffizi Galleries, in Florence, Italy, Friday, July 19, 2019. AP

Painting, stolen by Nazi soldier, is back in Florence museum

FLORENCE, Italy (AP)—A Dutch still-life painting, stolen by retreating Nazis and sent by a German soldier as a present to his wife, came back to a Florence museum on Friday, thanks largely to a relentless campaign by the Uffizi Galleries’ director, a German.

The foreign ministers of German and Italy were on hand Friday at Palazzo Pitti, a Renaissance palace that is part of the Uffizi Galleries, for the unveiling of “Flower Vase,” a masterpiece by Jan van Huysum, an early 18th-century artist whose exquisitely detailed still-life works were highly sought in his day.

Uffizi director Eike Schmidt earlier this year urged his native country to return the work. He had posted on a gallery wall three labels where the painting had hung before being taken during World War

II: “stolen,” the labels read in Italian, English and German.

His homeland, Schmidt said at the time, had a “moral duty” to return the work.

Italian Foreign Minister Enzo Moavero hailed the “civic and moral courage of a German director of an Italian museum” in pursuing the painting’s return. As did his German counterpart, Moavero hailed the happy ending, saying it was achieved through “real Europeanism, of concrete facts” and not just words.

He revealed to reporters that the painting’s return was discussed, among other matters, during bilateral talks between Italy and Germany.

“Flower Vase” is so realistic it has been likened to a photograph. Van Huysum used a magnifying glass to study his subjects. Ripples are visible in insects’ transparent wings, to

name just one striking detail on the returned painting.

The painting was acquired in 1824 by a grand duke of the Habsburg-Lorraine dynasty, which followed the Medicis in residing in the palace in Florence.

Shortly after the outbreak of World War II, the palace’s artworks were packed for safekeeping into wooden crates and moved from villa to villa. When the Germany army was retreating, the crates were added to other war booty and eventually ended up in Bolzano, an Alpine city near Austria. There the crate containing “Flower Vase” was opened, and in July 1944, a German soldier sent the painting to his wife in Germany.

Minister Moavero quoted the soldier as writing instructions to his wife to “put it in a gilded frame.”

The painting’s whereabouts

appeared to be a mystery until a few weeks after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Starting in 1991, the German family repeatedly tried to sell the painting to Italy via intermediaries, “threatening to give it to a third party or even destroy it if a ransom wasn’t paid,” the Italian culture ministry said. The latest approach for money was made to the Uffizi in 2016, it said.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Mass thanked Schmidt for campaigning so passionately for the painting’s return. “Here is its place, here is where it belongs,” he said.

At a time of tensions among many European Union allies over migrant issues, Maas saw inspiration in the successful artwork diplomacy. He likened an EU “without ‘diversity, without solidarity’ to a ‘museum without paintings on display, a vase without flowers.’”

Gina Torres steps into the spotlight with 'Suits' spinoff

By ALICIA RANCILIO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—Gina Torres used to wonder about the back story of her "Suits" character, Jessica Pearson.

The character was the co-founder and boss of the law firm at the center of the show, but that was about all that was known.

Torres wondered: "She doesn't have family, she doesn't have people. When are we gonna meet her people? What's gonna happen? When are we gonna get to know more of the woman?"

Torres' questions are answered in the new spinoff, "Pearson," that premiered Wednesday on USA.

As the show begins, Pearson has been disbarred and can no longer practice law. She relocates from New York to Chicago where she's hired as the unofficial fixer for the mayor, who is married, but involved with the city attorney.

"Pearson" is "not Suits 2.0. It's not Suits Jr.," Torres said. It's not a legal series or a procedural and is different in tone from "Suits."

"I like to call it a legacy show because clearly I come from

the world of 'Suits,' but it's a very, very different animal," she said. "It's not a different Jessica, it's just more of Jessica in a place of evolving. She's sort of questioning her choices, she's looking forward to what she wants to do and there's still more to accomplish."

Torres also serves as an executive producer, a role that has been one of her career goals.

And as Torres embarks on this new chapter, it seems surreal that her former co-star Meghan Markle is now the Duchess of Sussex, one of the most famous women in the world.

"It's weird and at the same time I don't think a lot of people sort of take into account that you're having the exact same experience that everyone else is having," Torres said.

She said the public doesn't want to know about the person she worked with, but, instead, has created a character that is separate from reality. That's the weird part, she said, "the dehumanization of celebrity and fame."

"I often say that Michelle Obama is my best friend in my head (but) I know it's in my head," she said laughing. "I'm clear that's what's happening."

This July 17, 2019 photo shows actress Gina Torres poses for a portrait in New York to promote her "Suits" spin-off series "Pearson."

AP



'The Lion King' rules and 'Endgame' scores all-time record

LOS ANGELES (AP)—If there was any doubt that the 2019 box office belonged to the Walt Disney Co., this weekend put an end to it. Not only did its photorealistic remake of "The Lion King" devour opening weekend records for the month of July and PG-rated films, but "Avengers: Endgame" also crept past "Avatar" to become the highest-grossing film of all time.

"The Lion King" this weekend roared into 4,725 North American theaters, where it grossed a stunning \$185 million, according to studio estimates on Sunday. Although reviews were mixed for Jon Favreau's remake of the 1994 animated film, audiences still turned out in droves to hear the A-list voice cast, from Beyoncé to Donald Glover, and see the innovative technology that made the film possible.

"We've had a spectacular run this weekend," said Cathleen Taff, Disney's president of distribution. "We really did know we had something special with ('The Lion King') given its popularity with fans of all ages."

Industry experts had pegged "The Lion King" for a \$150 million opening, which turned out to be far too modest a projection. Instead, with \$185 million, Disney got a few records to boast about: It's the ninth-biggest opening of all time, a July record (unseating "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2"), and a PG-rating record (taking over from "The Incredibles 2").

It's the second time this year a beloved Disney brand has overwhelmed a tepid critical response. "Aladdin," which is still in the top 10 after nine weeks in theaters, has made \$989 million globally.

"Certain brands have so



This file image released by Disney shows, from left, young Simba, voiced by JD McCrary, Timon, voiced by Billy Eichner, and Pumbaa, voiced by Seth Rogen, in a scene from "The Lion King." AP

much goodwill and equity," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Comscore. "Reviews clearly didn't matter at all."

And, having opened in China a week early, "The Lion King" has amassed over \$531 million in just 10 days. Audiences also embraced large format and 3D for the event film: 36% of that total came from 3D showings and \$25.2 million from IMAX.

This is just the latest in a long string of wins for Disney, which now holds five of the top six spots for the year. It's evident even in this weekend's charts. Five weeks in, "Toy Story 4" is still at No. 3 with an additional \$14.6 million (behind "Spider-Man: Far From Home," which slipped to second in its third weekend with \$21 million). The Pixar sequel has grossed \$859.4 million globally. "Aladdin" is in 7th place, with \$3.8 million.

And then there is "Avengers: Endgame," which didn't make the top 10, but that hardly matters. With \$1.5 million globally added this

1. "The Lion King," \$185 million (\$269.4 million international).
2. "Spider-Man: Far From Home," \$21 million (\$37.2 million international).
3. "Toy Story 4," \$14.6 million (\$25.8 million international).
4. "Crawl," \$6 million (\$2.7 million international).
5. "Yesterday," \$5.1 million (\$4.3 million international).
6. "Stuber," \$4 million (\$1.1 million international).
7. "Aladdin," \$3.8 million (\$9.2 million international).
8. "Annabelle Comes Home," \$2.7 million (\$7.4 million international).
9. "Midsommar," \$1.6 million (\$584,000 international).
10. "The Secret Life of Pets 2," \$1.5 million (\$6.7 million international).

weekend, it surpassed "Avatar's" all-time record, not accounting for inflation.

"Avatar" grossed \$2.789 billion worldwide, and "Avengers: Endgame" is currently at \$2.79 billion.

"Endgame" finally did it," Taff said. "It's a huge achievement."

Marvel Studios president Kevin Feige previewed that

this was a sure-thing Saturday night at San Diego Comic-Con.

"You have to shout-out to Mr. James Cameron, who held that title for a long time," Feige said. "If you adjust for inflation, he still holds the title, and he'll probably get the title again as soon as he puts out another movie. But for right now ... 'Avengers: Endgame' is the biggest film of all time."

This weekend helped knock the year-to-date deficit from 9.1% to 7.2%.

"That's what a massive Disney debut will do for the box office," Dergarabedian said. "You've got to give some credit to the holdovers that are doing quite well, like 'Yesterday.' But it's just a great weekend for the industry and absolutely a shot in the arm that was needed."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Sally Field, 'Sesame Street' to receive Kennedy Center award

WASHINGTON (AP)—Actress Sally Field and the long-running children's TV show "Sesame Street" are in the latest class of Kennedy Center Honors recipients.

Others chosen to receive the award for lifetime achievement in the arts include singer Linda Ronstadt, conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and the musical group Earth, Wind and Fire.

The recipients announced Thursday will be honored during a gala ceremony in early December. For the third straight year, the attendance of President Donald Trump seems likely to be a subject of speculation in advance of the event. Trump has skipped the past two celebrations. The first time, multiple recipients threatened to boycott the event if he attended.

The Kennedy Center's president, Deborah Rutter, said it was too early to tell whether Trump or first lady Melania Trump would attend.

"They are always invited," she said. "He is the president of the United States of America, and it would be good to have these extraordinary individuals acknowledged by the president."

Field, 72, was a television star at age 19 and went on to forge a distinguished career that included two Academy Awards and three Emmys. She starred last year in a Netflix miniseries called "Maniac."

"Sesame Street" debuted in 1969 and remains a force in children's educational television. The show now airs new episodes on HBO, and they are rebroadcast

months later on the show's original home, PBS. In recent years, the creators have worked to embrace more modern issues, introducing a puppet named Julia with autism. The co-founders of "Sesame Street," Joan Ganz Cooney and Lloyd Morrisett, will accept the award on behalf of the show.

Ronstadt was one of the faces of American music in the 1970s and 80s, landing on the cover of Time magazine in 1977. Her four-decade career moved smoothly between country, pop and rock with occasional deviations into Mexican folk songs. In 2011, she announced her retirement from singing, citing the advancing effects of Parkinson's disease.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Ronstadt professed to a fairly ambivalent relationship to the collection of prizes, awards and honors she has accrued. "I don't think a lot about prizes," she said. "You do the work for the work."

Tilson Thomas, who has served as music director of the San Francisco Symphony for the past 24 years, has become particularly renowned for his interpretations of the entire works of Gustav Mahler. Asked why he felt he was chosen for the award, Tilson Thomas laughed and said, "I guess I've just been around a long time! I started out always being the youngest person on stage, and now I'm the oldest person on stage."

Earth, Wind and Fire was originally formed in Chicago by lead singer Maurice White.

'Avengers: Endgame' has passed 'Avatar' as biggest film ever

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The global box office has a new king in "Avengers: Endgame."

The superhero extravaganza this weekend usurped "Avatar" to become the high-

est-grossing film of all time, with an estimated \$2.79 billion in worldwide grosses in just 13 weeks.

"Avatar" held onto the record for a decade at \$2.789 billion.

The title comes with a few caveats, however, including the fact that "Avatar's" grosses are not adjusted for inflation. Also, domestically, "Avengers: Endgame" is No. 2 to "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" by around \$80 million.

Marvel Studios president Kevin Feige gave a shout-out to "Avatar" director James Cameron Saturday night at San Diego Comic-Con for holding the record for so long. Feige also noted the inflation technicality and said Cameron will probably hold the title again someday.



AP
Hawkeye/Clint Barton (Jeremy Renner) in a scene from Marvel Studios' 'Avengers: Endgame.' The global box office has a new king in "Avengers: Endgame."

TV personality Jesse James offers reward for return of dog

NEWPORT, R.I. (AP)—Reality TV star Jesse James is offering a \$5,000 reward for the return of one of his beloved dogs.

James in an Instagram post says the 6-year-old French bulldog named Coco went missing in the Newport, Rhode Island area last Tuesday.

In a previous post James had offered a \$2,000 reward for the return of his dog "no questions asked."



James

He said in that post Coco "only has eyes for me and won't want to stay with anyone else."

James, founder of West Coast Choppers motorcycle customizing business, was the star of "Jesse James is a Dead Man" on Spike TV and "Monster Garage" on the Discovery Channel.

He says there have been reported sightings of the dog but none have panned out.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Universal to release 2 new films in its 'Halloween' saga

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Universal says it will release two new "Halloween" films, including one with the ominous title "Halloween Ends." The studio said Friday that the first of the films, "Halloween Kills," will be released in 2020 and the second film will come in 2021. A teaser video includes the voice of Jamie Lee Curtis, who starred in the original 1978 film and last year's blockbuster sequel, "Halloween." The video states the saga of Curtis' character, Laurie Strode, and villain Michael Myers "isn't over." Universal says "Halloween Kills" will be released on Oct. 16, 2020, and "Halloween Ends" will arrive Oct. 15, 2021. Last year's film set records and earned \$253.5 million worldwide. Curtis is also serving as a producer on the films, which are being overseen by Blum-

house Productions.

'Titans' cast, crew heartbroken after crew member is killed

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The producers of the web series "Titans" say the cast and crew are heartbroken after a special effects coordinator was killed while preparing for a stunt. In a statement, the show's executive producers say Warren Appleby was killed at a special effects facility while preparing for an upcoming shoot. No other details were disclosed. Warner Bros. Television Group and DC Universe said in the statement that Appleby was a "treasured colleague" who was "beloved by all who worked with him during an impressive 25-year career in television." Production for the series, which is based on the DC Comics' "Teen Titans," takes place in Toronto. Appleby was special effects coordinator for Guillermo del Toro's "The Shape of Water,"

which won the best picture Oscar in 2018.

Passengers on Southwest flight get Nintendo Switch

DALLAS (AP)—Passengers on a Southwest Airlines flight got more than a small bottle of water when they boarded their plane. They received a Nintendo Switch system and a download code for the digital version of the "Super Mario Maker 2" game to enjoy as Flight 2246 traveled from Dallas to San Diego on Wednesday. Many of the passengers were headed to Comic Con in the California city. Mario was on hand to greet the passengers when the flight arrived. The gaming-themed flight highlighted Southwest's partnership with Nintendo in the Let's Play Getaway sweepstakes that awards a daily winner a Nintendo Switch system and a download code for the digital version. The sweepstakes ends Aug. 31 with a grand prize

winner and three guests receiving roundtrip air travel.

Bradley Whitford and Amy Landecker are hitched

NEW YORK (AP)—With a nod to "The Handmaid's Tale," Amy Landecker announced on Instagram that she is "of Bradley," elopement style. Landecker said Thursday she wed her fellow "Handmaid" co-star Bradley Whitford with their children and dogs, Izzy and Otis, as witnesses. They were married by political activist Ady Barkan at the courthouse in Santa Barbara. The groom wore a blue suit jacket. The bride held a bouquet and tied the knot in a blue print day dress. Whitford plays Joseph Lawrence and Landecker played Mrs. Mackenzie on "The Handmaid's Tale," the hit Hulu series. Representatives for the couple confirmed the happy news.

Prince George turning 6 as UK palace releases new photos

LONDON (AP)—Kensington Palace has released three new photographs before Prince George's birthday.

The future king turns 6 on Monday. It's become a tradition for the palace to release snapshots taken by his mother Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge.

In two of the pictures George is seen with a big smile as he wears an English

soccer jersey. The third shows him on a family holiday.

George is third in line for the throne behind his grandfather Prince Charles and his father Prince William.

He is a great-grandson of Queen Elizabeth II.



AP
In this undated photo released by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on Sunday, July 21, 2019,

Old boyfriend who stole item years ago turns up on Facebook

DEAR ABBY: I recently located a person I knew a long time ago who stole an expensive gold bracelet from me. I'd dated this guy for a while. He wore my bracelet, and I wore his. My bracelet was a gift from a relative I cared for deeply. His bracelet was a piece of junk, but I was a teenager with no brains and allowed him to wear mine. Well, we split up and he just disappeared. I tried getting my bracelet back but couldn't find him. As I mentioned, I found him on Facebook, married with children, and I felt this anger come over me. Should I contact him and ask what happened to my jewelry?

GOLDEN GIRL IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR GOLDEN GIRL: No, you should contact him and tell him you would like the item returned or be compensated for it. What "happened" to the bracelet was that he stole it. Because many years have passed since you two dated, the odds that he still has the bracelet are slim. But it's worth a try.

DEAR ABBY: I am 16 and have a hard time making friends. I have more guy friends than girl friends, which causes me problems. I got called a slut again the other day because of it. I'm a virgin and only have a crush on one of the guys I hang out with (my boyfriend). I have tried finding more female friends, but the drama is really hard to put up with. I have tried ignoring the com-

ments, but after a while it gets hard to ignore. I'm not sure what else to do. Please help me out. I would be really grateful.

MISUNDERSTOOD IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR MISUNDERSTOOD: I wish I could make the name-calling go away, but I can't. The perpetrator is most likely jealous because of the relationship you have with your boyfriend and other guy friends. Not everyone makes friends easily. It's nothing to be ashamed of; it's just a fact of life. That's why you should treasure the ones you DO have—because old friends are some of the best friends, and high school and its cliques won't last forever.

DEAR ABBY: Two years ago my family had a run of bad luck, which landed us in a homeless shelter. I got an apartment fairly quickly, and it's mine and my daughter's.

My mother was supposed to move in rent-free, but she brought her boyfriend, who I didn't want here. He's still here and barely contributes to the expenses. I recently lost my job and he promised to help out more financially, but he hasn't. He continues to mooch. This has caused so much stress between my mother and me. "Hate" is a strong word, but I hate him and want him out. He knows it, but makes no effort to leave. What can I do?

WANTING MY OWN SPACE

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



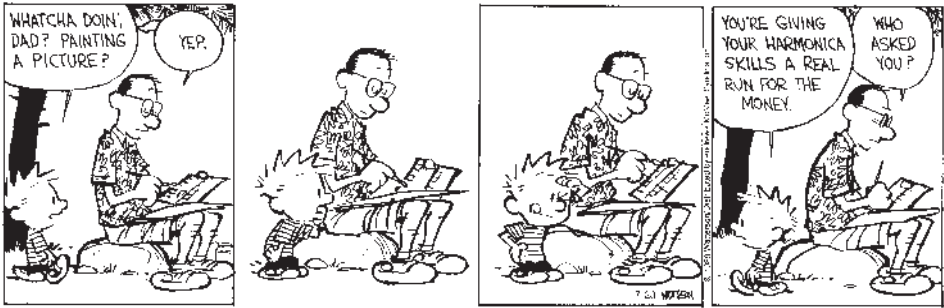
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR WANTING: You are not helpless, and you shouldn't be held hostage because of your mother's feelings for her deadbeat boyfriend. Contact your state bar association to see what your legal rights are. Then tell your mother you want him out, give her a deadline to see that it happens, and suggest that she go with him if she can't bear to be separated from him. If he doesn't meet the deadline, put his belongings in a box, place them outside and change your locks.

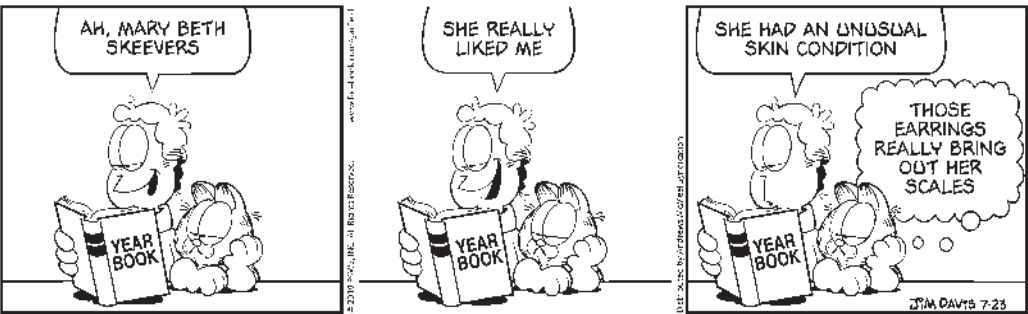
Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

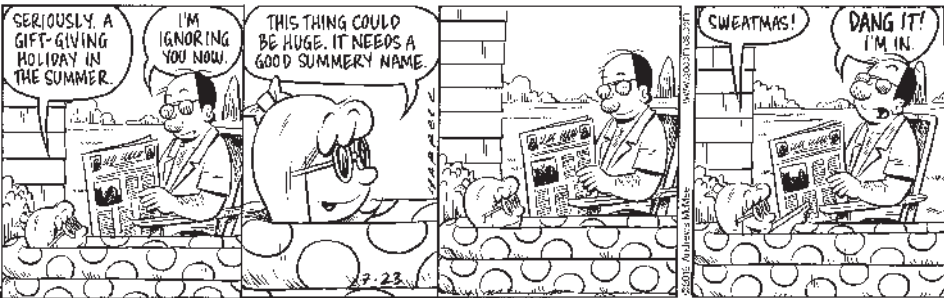
Calvin and Hobbes



Garfield®



Adam@home



The Duplex



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Corn Belt state

5 Pear type

9 Lock opener

12 Role in "Evita"

13 Director Kazan

14 Rage

15 Energize

17 Espionage org.

18 Challah

19 Comes to

21 Used the oven

24 Sugar or starch, for short

25 Yale students

26 Affluent

30 "Shark Tank" network

31 It's a dyeing art

32 Ballot marks

33 Catch some z's

35 Rind

36 Dog biscuit shape

37 A Marx brother

38 Borneo ape, for short

40 Earth

42 Lobbying org.

43 Bicycle support

48 Biblical boat

49 Sharif of film

50 Incursion unit

51 French article

52 Hawaiian coast

53 Harvard rival

DOWN

1 Trio after H

2 French assent

3 WWII service-woman

4 Leg joints

5 Alpha follower

6 "Frozen" snowman

7 Knight's address

8 Model's runway

9 One who fights with fists and feet

10 A Great Lake

11 Pro votes

16 Turf

20 Curator's focus

21 Exhausted

22 Goya's duchess

23 Bribes of a sort

24 Film fragment

26 Fade away

27 LAX info

28 Profound

29 Norwegian seaport

31 Thailand's capital

34 Very long time

35 Meager

37 That guy's

38 October birthstone

39 Scarce

40 Read quickly

41 Gumbo veggie

44 "As I see it," in a text

45 Small battery

46 Goose egg

47 HST follower

Solution time: 22 mins.

EDAM NAF MAKO

SJHECURE IHAJ

CCPYEDIT SARI

ERE UNABLE

OPERA PLOC

ALAS PLAJCIT

KOS LEANV MUG

WEDIDIT RARA

AMIN JENNY

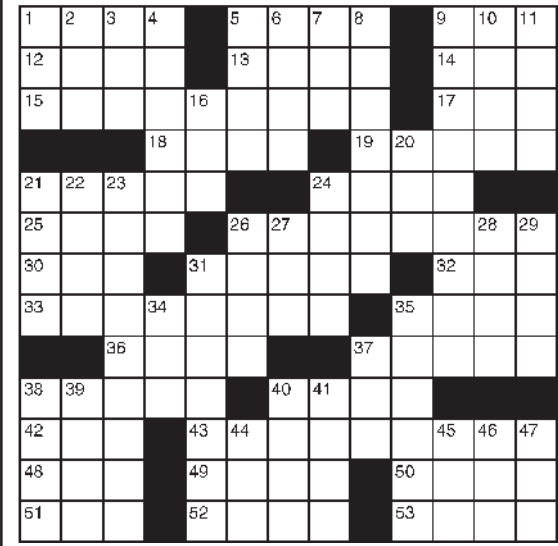
MANIAC SAC

AVON ACCREDIT

RENT BLOSSOMS

XRAY SEW SNAP

Yesterday's answer 7-23



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Daniel Radcliffe, 30; Paul Wesley, 37; Marlon Wayans, 47; Woody Harrelson, 58.

Happy Birthday: Do not make an abrupt change this year. Refuse to let your emotions lead to confusion and second-guessing what to do next. Use your intelligence and intuition to help you stabilize whatever situation you face. Living with what you know will be easier than dealing with someone foreign to you. Your numbers are 4, 11, 15, 24, 32, 36, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Deep breath in, deep breath out. Now review your situation, your options and what you plan to do. Once you've formulated what's best for you, lay out a plan and present it to those in charge. Be willing to make concessions. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): If someone questions what you are doing, take a second look. You may have overlooked something that could be detrimental to the results you are trying to achieve. Make personal improvements, love and peace priorities. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put more effort into making things better at home and for those you love. A couple of adjustments that are conducive to activities that motivate you to get into tip-top shape are recommended. Think big, but practice minimalism. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Consider what's right and what's wrong before you make a choice. Base any decision you make on facts, not an emotional incident. A change is best built on solid ground, not a disagreement. Concentrate on work and productivity,

not personal matters. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Concentrate on what you can achieve, and don't let what others do disrupt your plans. You shouldn't feel you have to take care of matters that don't concern you. Let others fend for themselves. A physical outlet will help ease stress. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do your best to get along. Sharing burdens and responsibilities will help you reach your objective quicker and more efficiently, leaving more time to kick back with someone you love. Time spent nurturing a relationship will bring you closer together. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep moving. Challenge yourself physically. Find alternative ways to use your skills, and do your best to keep the peace. An emotional situation will spin out of control should you let someone taunt you into an argument. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll learn plenty by observing the people and the changes going on around you. Digest everything before you make a judgment call. It's best to be fully informed and leave absolutely no room for mistakes. Choose peace and love over force. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A track record will be vital when engaging in a joint venture. Trust in what you know, not what someone tells you. Put in the work, do the research and avoid letting someone take advantage of you. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you don't like something, change it. Don't waste time fixating on an emotional issue that isn't going to change. Remove yourself from any situation that is time-consuming and emotionally debilitating. Do whatever works best for you. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Change should only be made if necessary. Your motives should be for the benefit of you as well as others. Play fair, and expect the same from those you encounter. High energy and enthusiasm will lead to good results and better opportunity. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A chance to make a professional or financial move is apparent. A discussion with someone you have worked with in the past will lead to information about an interesting position. Networking and volunteering will lead to opportunities or a joint venture. ***

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, intense and possessive. You are sympathetic and persevering. To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★

7/23

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7/23

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

AGING IS FUN!

Solution: 12 letters

S S N O I T A C I F I D O M G

E A G A N I M A L S U S R A L

S V F R E E D O M A T T L N A

I I H E A L T H V A R A U F S

W N A C T I V E G E C U A R S

E G E L C Y C E F I L M T U E

L S X D B U S Y G D I P P A S

L L A M R O N O R L E P L A N

A P L A R L L C Y O O G R E Y

C R E D L O H L S R M B A M H

I O R I H A R O T I M E O U E

S C W C N E C L O C K D M D L

Y E Y G D I Y E A R S A E N Y

H S E L A T S R O I N E S S T

P S E L K N I R W S T R E S S

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Active, Aged, Animals, Body, Busy, Changes, Clock, Elderly, Family, Freedom, Future, Glasses, Grey, Health, Humans, Life Cycle, Memory, Modifications, Move, Natural, Normal, Older, Physical, Plan, Process, Psychological, Relax, Safety, Savings, Seniors, Social, Stages, Stress, Style, Support, Time, Well, Will, Wisdom, Wise, Wrinkles, Years

Yesterday's Answer: Security

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 38, 40, and 42 through 56, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) H. E. Mechanics \$8.14 to \$9.00 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul mobile mechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, and conveyors, used in construction, logging, and surface mining. Repair and replace damaged or worn parts. Test mechanical products and equipment after repair or assembly to ensure proper performance and compliance with manufacturers' specifications. Operate and inspect machines or heavy equipment to diagnose defects. Read and understand operating manuals, blueprints, and technical drawings. Dismantle and reassemble heavy equipment using hoists and hand tools.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
• AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
• KNOWLEDGE IN HOIST, HAND TOOLS AND TESTERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at amlep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) Maintenance Technicians \$8.11 to \$8.50 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Dismantle machines, equipment, or devices to access and remove defective parts, using hoists, cranes, hand tools, or power tools. Perform routine maintenance, such as inspecting drives, motors, or belts, checking fluid levels, replacing filters, or doing other preventive maintenance actions. Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
• AT LEAST 12 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
• KNOWLEDGE IN USING HAND AND POWER TOOLS SUCH AS CORDLESS POWER DRILLS, POWER CIRCULAR SAWS AND PULLERS.

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GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(5) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN - \$8.84 to 14.42 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes. Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate or its equivalence;
• At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk; &
• Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

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GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) Truck Driver 8.00 to 8.35 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers. Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate
• At least 12 months experience
• Should possess a CNMI Driver's License

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GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

WHATZIT Solution: Bags under the eyes

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Are you tired of high priced cable TV? How about free? Ask me how! Plus, offers a very lucrative pay plan. We are international. <http://infiniteincome.net>. Questions, call Dixie 214 735 3727.

Airline Administrative Supervisor:
Supervise administrative activities for airline co.; Associate's in Airline Service Management or related req'd; 40hrs/wk;

Asiana Airlines, Inc. PMB 574 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

• 3-Liner	\$15
• 5-Liner	\$24

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(06) Electricians -\$8.78-\$8.78 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Plan layout and installation of electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, based on job specifications and local codes. Connect wires to circuit breakers, transformers, or other components. Test electrical systems or continuity of circuits in electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, using testing devices, such as ohmmeters, voltmeters, or oscilloscopes, to ensure compatibility and safety of system. Use a variety of tools or equipment, such as power construction equipment, measuring devices, power tools, and testing equipment, such as oscilloscopes, ammeters, or test lamps. Inspect electrical systems, equipment, or components to identify hazards, defects, or the need for adjustment or repair, and to ensure compliance with codes.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
• AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
• KNOWLEDGE IN USING MEASURING DEVICES, POWER TOOLS AND TESTING EQUIPMENT SUCH AS OHMMETERS, VOLTMETERS, OSCILLOSCOPES, AMMETERS, OR TEST LAMPS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at amlep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

APEX BUILDERS, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN- \$8.84to 9.33 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes. Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
• High School Graduate or its equivalence;
• At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk; &
• Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@apexinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Peridido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

DREAM PACIFIC CORPORATION
Has an opening for
RESERVATIONS SALES AGENT (1)

- Job Duties:**
- 1.) Make arrangements for Hotel/Restaurant/Optional Tour Reservations of tourist customers.
 - 2.) Make daily schedules for Korean customer's trip itinerary.
 - 3.) Make Inquiry on hotel availability.
 - 4.) Coordinate with tourist customers/hotels/restaurants/optional tour companies in making any requests from tourist customers.
 - 5.) Coordinate and communicate with Tour Companies in Korea in regards to upcoming/arriving Tourist customers.
 - 6.) Make reports on daily tour activities.
 - 7.) Make Hotel/Restaurant/optional tour payments.

- Requirements:**
- At least High school Graduate or higher.
 - Must be knowledgeable in computer programs (Excel, Word and Online Reservation System)
 - Must know how to operate simple office machines such as fax/telephone and computer
 - Good verbal and written communications required.
 - Must be able to read, write and speak Korean Language for better communications with the main office and with the customers.
 - At least 12 months related experience in travel/tourism industry.
 - Police clearance required- equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.
 - Valid Driver's License Required.
 - Previous Job Certificate required- equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.

Salary: \$ 8.54 per hour
This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to dreampacificcorp2016@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Saturday 9am-6pm).



We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude. Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

(1) GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Minimum of two (2) years related work experience. Must have previous experience with an Apple Mac platform. Must have proficient skills in Creative Cloud (Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe In Design, Adobe Acrobat, and Adobe Lightroom). Photography skills preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Friday, August 2nd 2019.

PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

DREAM PACIFIC CORPORATION
Has an opening for
TOUR GUIDE (5)

- Job Duties:**
1. Handle pre-arrange package tours & activities surrounding in-bound tours, have the ability to carry out activities numerated in the package tour.
 2. Prepares reports on tour activities.
 3. Correspond with tour operators in Korea.
 4. Prepare exit & arrival schedules.
 5. Formulate, organize & execute an attractive & competitive tour package to be sold Korean tourists who are based in Korea.
 6. Confirms reservations, arranges sales of optional tours or services.
 7. Assist in selling of optional tours, assist customers on daily basis in explaining all the optional tours and rental items available and perform other duties as assigned or as required.
 8. Explain the different optional tours available on the island.
 9. Explain and inform tourist customers about the different historic tourist spots on the island to give each customers knowledge about the islands history and its significance to the people of Saipan.
- Requirements:**
1. Two years related experience in tour/travel industry.
 2. Must be able to speak, read and write Korean Language.
 3. Computer skill required, excel and word.
 4. At least High school graduate.
 5. Traffic and Police clearance required (Will be applied equally to US workers and CW-1 workers).
 6. Must possess a Tour Guide Certificate from MVA/NMC.
 7. Must possess a valid CNMI Driver's License.
 8. Must be willing to work flexible schedule.
 9. Previous work experience certificate required (Will be applied equally to US workers and CW-1 Workers).

Salary: : \$ 9.23 per hour
This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to dreampacificcorp2016@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667(Monday to Saturday 9am-6pm).

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 - 4.) May assist in resolving clients travel problem.
 - 5.) Oversees Tour guides and fix their schedule.
 - 6.) Plan tour itineraries, applying knowledge of travel routes and destination sites.
 - 7.) Resolve any problems with itineraries, service or accommodations.
 - 8.) Sell travel packages.
 - 9.) Arrange for tour or expedition details such as accommodations, transportation, equipment and the availability of medical personnel.
 - 10.) Evaluate services received on tour, report findings to the organizers.



- Requirements:**
- Must be at least High school Graduate with 2 years related experience.
 - Must be knowledgeable in computer programs (Excel, Word and Online Reservation System)
 - Must be able to read, write and speak Korean Language for better communications with the main office and with the customers.
 - At least 2 years related experience in travel/tourism industry.
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 - Must possess a Valid Driver's License.
 - Previous work experience Certificate required- equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.

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Lowry wins British Open in return to Emerald Isle

PORTRUSH, Northern Ireland (AP)—Shane Lowry made the 68 years between British Opens in Northern Ireland worth the wait.

The silver claret jug is staying on the Emerald Isle.

Lowry, the 32-year-old Irishman with stout nerves and a soft touch around the greens, endured the worst weather of the week and the Sunday pressure of a sellout crowd cheering him along to win the British Open by six shots at Royal Portrush.

Even as the rain stopped, the tears began flowing.

"I can't believe this is me standing here," Lowry said as he cradled golf's oldest trophy. "I can't believe this is mine."

It was never really in doubt.

Lowry closed with a 1-over 72, the first time since 1996 the Open champion was over par in the final round, and it was no less impressive. More difficult than the rain was wind strong enough to break an umbrella. Lowry began making bogeys in the middle of the round without losing ground. No one from the last 12 groups broke par.

And no one got closer than three shots all day of Lowry, who finished at 15-under 269.

Thousands of fans who filled these links off the North Atlantic began to celebrate when Lowry, after his fourth bogey in seven holes, rolled in an 8-foot birdie putt on the 15th hole to stretch his lead to six with three holes to play.



Ireland's Shane Lowry smiles as he sits next to the Claret Jug trophy while he attends a press conference after he won the British Open Golf Championships at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, Sunday, July 21, 2019.

one country when it comes to golf," Lowry said.

It was one big group hug when it ended, starting with his wife and daughter, and his parents. Harrington and McDowell were among those waiting behind the 18th green to share in the celebration, along with Koepka and his caddie, Ricky Elliott, once a promising amateur who grew up at Royal Portrush.

"I didn't feel great out there. It was probably the most uncomfortable I've ever felt on a golf course," Lowry said. "You're out there trying to win an Open in your home country, and it's just incredibly difficult."

It showed early when Lowry pulled his tee shot into the rough, hit into a deep bunker well short of the green and had to make an 8-foot putt just to escape with bogey. The wind was picking up and it was relentless for so much of the day. Lowry made his move on the more forgiving start, with three birdies in a four-hole stretch through the par-5 seventh that boosted his lead to six.

Everyone except Fleetwood fell back.

J.B. Holmes, who shared the 36-hole lead with Lowry until falling back Saturday, really went the wrong direction. He hit his first tee shot out-of-bounds. And it only got worse. He made one birdie and shot 87.

Lowry's lead was four shots when he saved par from a bunker left of the par-3 13th. Even on his bogey at the next hole, he added to his lead when Fleetwood hit a poor shot from the fairway bunker into the rough, couldn't get to the green and three-putted for a double bogey.

"I never really got close enough, and Shane played great," Fleetwood said. "The conditions were horrendous. It was Shane's time, Shane's tournament."

Lowry shared it with his family who paved the way, the players who inspired him. And after he was introduced as "champion golfer of the year," he shared it with thousands of people he didn't even know, all of them crammed along the hillocks and swales, along the edge of the ocean, and who sat in the horseshoe-shaped grandstands under umbrellas waiting for the Irishman to arrive.

Holding up the claret jug, Lowry said to them, "This one's for you."

Lowry's smile got wider with every hole coming in.

When his approach to the 18th was just on the fringe, he stretched out his arms, hugging caddie Bo Martin. The loudest cheer of a raucous week was for a tap-in

par that made Lowry a major champion.

"He's done brilliantly," Lee Westwood said after grinding out a 73 to tie for fourth. "All the chasers would have want-

ed tough conditions and he's clearly played brilliantly to be on the score he has, under the pressure he's under."

Tommy Fleetwood had to settle for his second runner-up



Antetokounmpo heads to Lakers



LAS VEGAS—Usually, a team picking up a 21-year-old former 60th overall pick with 11 career NBA minutes isn't going to move the needle. But, sometimes, the player is the brother of the league MVP and the team is the Los Angeles Lakers.

The Lakers have signed Kostas Antetokounmpo, the younger brother of Giannis Antetokounmpo, to a two-way contract after claiming him off waivers from the Dallas Mavericks, according to The Athletic's Shams Charania.

In real terms, this is a depth move for the Lakers. The young Antetokounmpo will likely spend most of the season for the G League's South Bay Lakers, and remains a major developmental prospect. Even in the G League, he only averaged 3.6 points per game with the Texas Legends last season.

Of course, the signee's last name led to a waive of specu-

lation, some serious and some derisive, that the Lakers were laying the groundwork for a run at the MVP when he's scheduled to hit free agency in the 2021 offseason.

It's pretty silly to think that signing Antetokounmpo's little brother to a deal that doesn't even guarantee he'll be in the league this season will have any effect on the Bucks forward's future decision.

For starters, the Bucks have already done essentially the same thing by signing Thanasis Antetokounmpo, the oldest brother, to a two-year deal after a quiet stint in the EuroLeague. Another team could even draft Alex Antetokounmpo, who is currently 17 years old, in the 2021 draft.

Yes, the Lakers have already signaled their intention to his 2021 free agency with significant cap space, but they'll probably have to do a lot more than sign one of his brothers to a two-year deal two years ahead of the fact. And, as Silver Screen and Roll points out, Antetok-

ounmpo might not even have any interest in moving to Los Angeles.

It's worth remembering, above all, that we're talking about a summer two years in the future. So much could change on both the Bucks and the Lakers that trying to seriously gauge Antetokounmpo's intentions is a fool's errand.

AD to consider playing for Bulls

Not every player wants to go home.

LeBron James returned to Cleveland (for a while). Kawhi Leonard and Paul George pushed to get back to Southern California. However, plenty of players see the return to their home town as more curse than blessing—it takes a maturity to be the face of the city, to not let hanging with your old buddies get in the way of off-season workouts, to handle everyone you went to high school with asking you for tickets to the game. A player has to be

ready for a lot to go home.

Would Anthony Davis consider a return to Chicago to lead the Bulls?

He wouldn't rule it out. Someday.

That does not mean next summer. Technically Davis is a free agent next summer, however, he is all but certain to resign with the Lakers (it's possible things go Dwight Howard/Steve Nash bad in Los Angeles and Davis wants out, but it's highly unlikely). Davis pushed his way to Los Angeles to win and lead the biggest brand in basketball down the line, to have his name in the rafters with legendary big men (Wilt, Kareem, Shaq). He's not bolting that after one season.

Could he finish his career in Chicago? Maybe. I'd say the same thing about Stephen Curry with Charlotte, but we are too many years from that to make any kind of prediction.

However, Davis didn't slam the door shut. Maybe someday that will be good news for Bulls fans.

Pujols hits milestone in win over Mariners



SEATTLE

(AP) — Albert

Pujols reached another milestone, one that was even better because it came in a win.

Pujols sliced a second-inning solo drive into the right field seats for his 648th career homer, helping push his team another game above .500 with a 9-3 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Sunday.

That shot gave him at least 15 home runs in the first 19 seasons of his career. He joined home run champ Barry Bonds and Hall of Famers Eddie Murray and Frank Robinson on that list.

“All glory to God for allowing me to be healthy for 19 seasons like that to accomplish this number,” Pujols said.

After his home run, he beat the throw on an infield single in the pivotal four-run fourth inning despite a tight hamstring, later scoring to help the Angels take a 5-0 lead. And he made it 7-0 with a sacrifice fly in the fifth.

Pujols’ two RBIs give him 14 in his last eight games and 33 in the last 32. His two moved him past Paul Waner for 16th place on the career list with 3,154.

Giants 3, Mets 2

In San Francisco, the Giants worked their extra-inning magic on the New York Mets getting a walk-off, opposite-field home run from Mike Yastrzemski in the bottom of the 12th.

The win was the Giants’ third in the four-game series, all in extra innings. They prevailed 3-2 in 16 innings on Thursday and 1-0 in 10 on Friday before getting overpowered 11-4 on Saturday.

Yastrzemski’s homer, his ninth in just 48 games with the Giants, came off the sixth Mets’ pitcher, Robert Gsellman (1-2), on a full-count pitch with one out. The left-handed hitter sent a high fly just a row or two deep into the left field bleachers.

Twins 7, Athletics 6

In Minneapolis, Max Kepler went 3-for-6 with four RBIs and drove in the winning run with a two-out single in the bottom of the ninth, as Minnesota rallied for a victory over Oakland.

Kepler also homered and doubled as the Twins won for just the second time in seven games.

Tigers 4, Blue Jays 3, 10 innings

In Detroit, Nicholas Castellanos led off the bottom of the 10th inning with his 11th home run of the season on the first pitch from Tim Lincecum, and the Tigers defeated Toronto.

JaCoby Jones also homered for the Tigers, who avoided being swept in the three-game series to end a six-game losing



AP
Los Angeles Angels’ Albert Pujols follows through a solo home run against the Seattle Mariners in the second inning of a baseball game Sunday, July 21, 2019, in Seattle.

ing streak. Nick Ramirez (5-3) pitched around a double in the 10th to pick up the win. Mayza (0-1) took the loss.

Phillies 2, Pirates 1, 11 innings

In Pittsburgh, Rhys Hoskins’ solo home run in the 11th inning lifted Philadelphia to a win.

With a 1-1 tie and the Phillies facing Pirates reliever Chris Stratton (1-3) in the 11th, Bryce Harper struck out before Hoskins just cleared the fence in left field on a 1-2 pitch for his 21st homer.

Dodgers 9, Marlins 0

In Los Angeles, Max Muncy, Joc Pederson and A.J. Pollock hit home runs, while Walker Buehler struck out 11, as the Dodgers completed a three-game sweep of Miami.

Buehler (9-1) recorded his first six outs via strikeout and gave up five hits and no walks in seven scoreless innings.

Brewers 7, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Mike Moustakas, Yasmani Grandal and Ben Gamel drove in eighth-inning

runs, as Milwaukee broke a 4-4 tie, and five relievers shut out Arizona over six innings.

Milwaukee trailed 4-0 after three innings, but light-hitting Tyler Saladino tied the game with a grand slam in the fourth inning.

Rockies 8, Yankees 4

In New York, German Marquez pitched seven sharp innings, Charlie Blackmon with 4-for-5 with a leadoff home run and Colorado broke a six-game losing streak.

Marquez (9-5) allowed only three hits, including solo hom-

ers to former Rockies DJ LeMahieu and Mike Tauchman.

Astros 5, Rangers 3

In Houston, Michael Brantley homered twice, while Rogelio Armenteros pitched five solid innings to earn his first major league win.

In his first MLB start, the 25-year old Armenteros (1-0) permitted just two hits and a run, walking two and fanning six.

Orioles 5, Red Sox 0

In Baltimore, Trey Mancini hit two home runs, and starter Asher

Wojciechowski carried a no-hitter into the seventh inning as the Orioles defeated the Red Sox.

Mancini recorded his second multi-homer game of the week, touching up former teammate Andrew Cashner for a solo shot plus a two-run blast off him later.

Rays 4, White Sox 2

In Tampa Bay, Travis d’Arnaud smacked his first career grand slam, Blake Snell pitched six shutout innings and the Rays beat g Chicago to snap a five-game losing streak.

Mariano Rivera closes Hall of Fame induction ceremony



COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. (AP)—

For Mariano Rivera, it was the culmination of a storied career, dreams of being the next Pelé long since forgotten. For Brandy Halladay, the Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony was a tearful moment to reflect on the accomplishments of her late husband, and she handled a difficult task admirably.

Rivera, the career saves leader and the first player unanimously voted into the Hall by the Baseball Writers’ Association of America, was greeted by chants of his name from the adoring crowd as he stepped to the podium in a fitting close to Sunday’s ceremony. He spoke in both English and at the end in Spanish, rarely looking down at the speech he had prepared.

“I think I choose that because sometimes you write words and it doesn’t sound right,” Rivera said. “But when you come from the

heart, it comes right. My intention was always to speak from the heart.”

Rivera and fellow closer Lee Smith, starters Mike Mussina and Roy Halladay, and designated hitters Edgar Martinez and Harold Baines were feted on a sun-splashed afternoon in Cooperstown. A crowd estimated at 55,000, the second-largest for an induction ceremony, quickly made Rivera feel at peace.

“You’re special for me,” said Rivera, who left his native Panama in 1990 unable to speak English. “Thank you for your help. Latin American fans, thank you. Thank you for loving me. I’m so humbled and blessed to receive this incredible honor. God bless you all.”

As a child, Rivera dreamed of being a soccer player in the mold of the great Brazilian star, Pelé. Instead, he found his niche on a baseball mound and finished his career with 652 saves. He pitched 19 seasons in the major leagues, all with the New York Yankees, and retired with 952 games

finished — also a record. A 13-time All-Star, Rivera helped the Yankees win five World Series titles and seven American League pennants.

“To the fans, you guys always pushed me to be the best,” he said. “When I was at Yankee Stadium pitching, it felt like I was pitching with 55,000 people throwing one pitch after another. Without your support, I cannot do it. You guys came to see me succeed.”

Brandy Halladay fought back tears as she spoke for her late husband, who had two sons.

“I knew I was going to cry at some point. It’s overwhelming the amount of people here today,” she said, tears welling in her eyes, her voice quavering with emotion. “I’m so grateful you’re here. I can’t tell you how many hugs I’ve gotten. There are not enough words to thank you.

“I know how honored Roy would be to be sitting here with such accomplished men. Thank you for being such a good example to him and to

supporting him in his career. This is not my speech to give.”

The son of a commercial pilot, Roy Halladay was 40 when he was killed in a plane crash in November 2017 into the Gulf of Mexico while piloting his own plane alone off the Florida coast 20 miles from his home. A toxicology report showed high levels of amphetamines and morphine in his system and hints of an antidepressant.

“I think that Roy would want everyone to know that people are not perfect,” Brandy said. “We are all imperfect and flawed in one way or another. We all struggle, but with hard work, humility and dedication, imperfect people can still have perfect moments. Roy was blessed in his life and in his career to have some perfect moments.”

A two-time Cy Young Award winner, Halladay amassed a 203-105 record in a 16-year career with Toronto and Philadelphia. He became just the second pitcher in major league history to throw a no-hitter in the postseason,

opening the 2010 NL Division Series with one against the Cincinnati Reds in the first playoff start of his career. He also pitched a perfect game that season. Halladay was elected in his first year on the ballot.

“Of course he would be honored and humbled,” Brandy Halladay said. “He was a true competitor. He went to the field every day ready to do whatever it took to give his team the best possible chance to win. I think Roy would rather be remembered by who he was, not what he did on the ballfield. He so desperately wanted to be as great and successful at home as he was in baseball.”

The family decided that there would be no logo on his plaque because both organizations meant a lot to Halladay.

Mussina, who pitched for 18 major league seasons, posted a record of 270-153 and was a seven-time Gold Glove winner. He spent his entire career in the high-scoring AL East with the Orioles and Yankees.

Foles prepares for Super Bowl aspirations with Jaguars



FLORIDA—

As the monumental task weighed upon him, and expectations and questions swirled about at an overwhelming rate, Nick Foles put pen to paper, and the words flowed.

It was the only way he could process the sudden shift in his role with the Philadelphia Eagles. Franchise quarterback Carson Wentz sustained a season-ending knee injury amidst an apparent 2017 playoff run. Foles, the backup, was suddenly charged with keeping the offense and the franchise afloat. An entire organization and its long-suffering fan base needed him to deliver in a way he never had during his NFL career.

So, Foles locked himself away and concluded his daily devotional time with a lengthy journal entry. He wrote about the expectations. He wrote about his feelings. He wrote about his responsibilities. He reminded himself of the promises of his faith, the encouragement of those around him.

By the end of the writing session, the stressful anguish had started to subside, and Foles went to work.

You know how the story ends. Foles became the unlikely hero—Super Bowl MVP after helping lead the Eagles on a march to the playoffs, a charge to the Super Bowl and the first Lombardi Trophy in franchise history. He displayed poise, a knack for making plays—with his arm, his legs and even his hands.

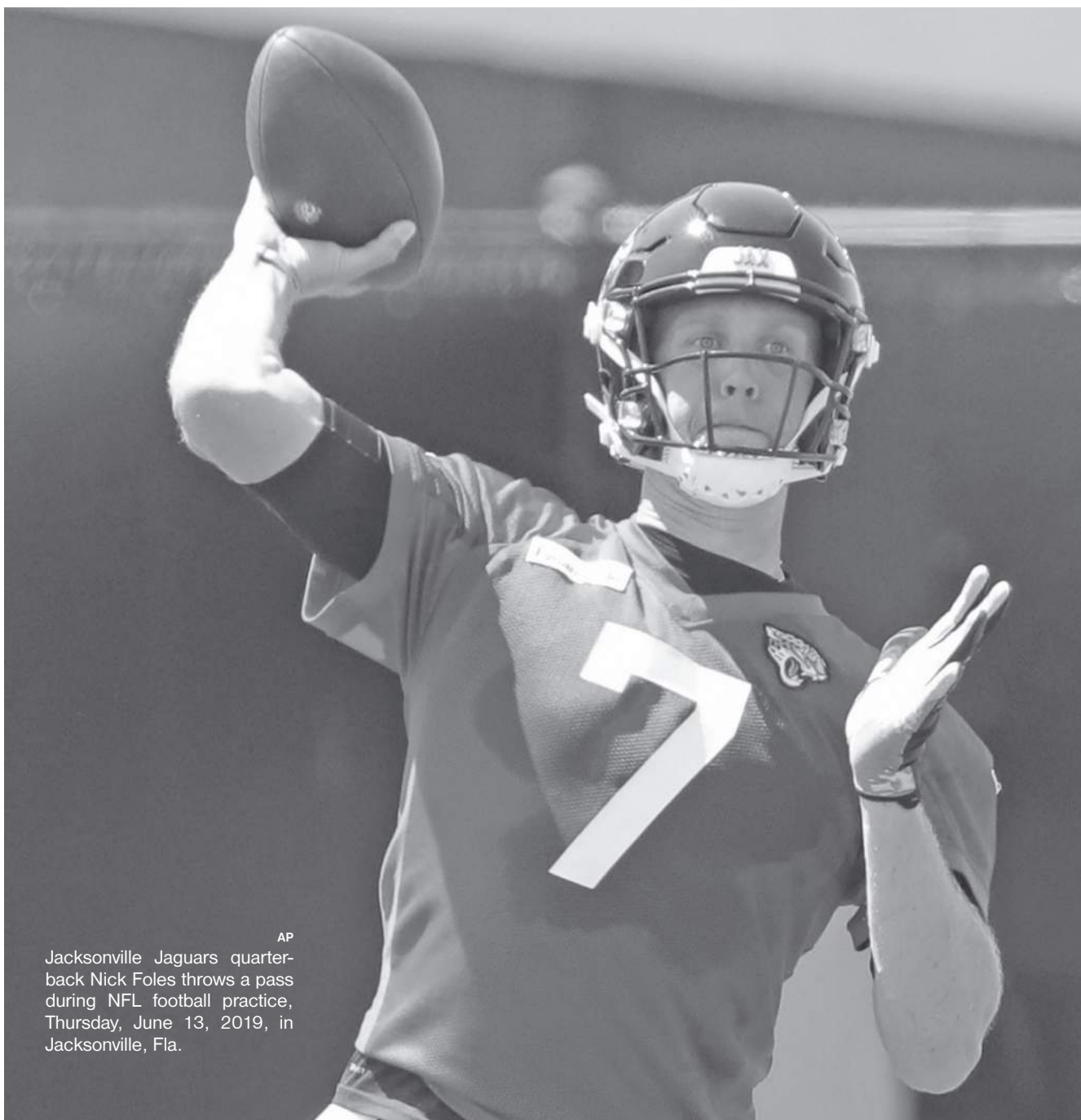
According to Foles, none of that would have happened if not for his determination to ground himself in his faith, family and strict mental and physical health regimens.

Seventeen months have passed since the Eagles' improbable Super Bowl run. Now Foles, an eighth-year veteran, again finds himself in pressure-packed territory. In March, he signed a four-year, \$88-million contract with the Jacksonville Jaguars. They expect him to infuse an anemic offense with explosiveness to complement a formidable defense and to lead them to a Super Bowl of their own.

He experienced the usual mental challenges associated with trying to acclimate himself to a new organization, coaches and teammates and a new city. But he has worked to maintain the same personal disciplines. He sees them as the key to ensuring continued success in this new chapter of his career.

Training camp looms. The Jaguars report for work Thursday. Foles admits feeling jitters welling up internally.

"You can ask anyone in this game. You know when it's about two weeks before training camp. Your body just



AP
Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Nick Foles throws a pass during NFL football practice, Thursday, June 13, 2019, in Jacksonville, Fla.

knows," Foles told said. "It's just a little different day by day. You notice it when you're trying to go to sleep at night. You can just feel it approaching, because training camp is training camp. It's not the easiest thing, but it's a time where you can get in some really good work."

For the quarterback, daily growth starts with his focus on his dietary and spiritual intake. Then, he progresses to football.

He begins each morning with a cup of Bulletproof coffee—a high-calorie drink that's part of Dave Asprey's Bulletproof diet, which features a recipe containing Brain Octane Oil, grass-fed ghee, collagen protein powder and an energy supplement that provides a boost without caffeine jitters.

When it comes to the mental preparation, Foles listens to various podcasts or books on tape during his 35-minute commute to the Jaguars' facility to help get him in a relaxed and motivated state of mind.

Sometimes the podcasts are health-related, like Asprey's Bulletproof series, other times they're faith-based books like his current favorite, A.W. Tozer's book on prayer or Francis Chan's Letters to the Church.

Once there, the growing relationships with his teammates and the reunion with offensive coordinator John DeFilippo (his quarterbacks coach the Super Bowl year in Philadelphia) have further helped Foles find a place of comfort in his new surroundings and his new playbook.

A familiarity with DeFilippo and his philosophies has given Foles a head start. Their relationship also translated into the coach giving Foles an ownership stake in the offense, ensuring that it's tailored to the quarterback's strengths.

The journal entries have continued since the Super Bowl run, and Foles' pen will flow furiously especially over the course of the next few days leading to training camp. The writings will feature a tone of reflection and encouragement, Foles predicted.

"A lot of times in these situations, I take a moment and reflect on life and the journey and times I've felt those ways. Whether it was being at Michigan State and starting over at Arizona or going to the NFL and think about all those moments, I just had to trust the Lord and be present," Foles explained. "My mind does wander. I'm thinking about training camp right now because it starts (this) week. But I have to remind myself that if I'm so worried about that then I can't see what's in front of me, and that's beautiful time with my family, time to enjoy these last couple days before it starts."

Broncos lack experience behind QB Flacco

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—If Joe Flacco stays healthy, it won't matter that rookie quarterbacks Drew Lock and Brett Rypien are greenhorns and incumbent backup Kevin Hogan has gotten off to a rocky start in Denver this summer.

Hogan, who has started just one game in the NFL, back in 2017 for the Cleveland Browns, threaded an 11-yard TD pass to Noah Fant past two defenders Sunday that was easily his best throw of training camp.

Before that, the fourth-year pro had been misfiring with no pressure, repeatedly overshooting open receivers with either a clean pocket or in 7-on-7 periods where there was no pass rush at all.

That was an alarming development for a team that lacks experience behind Flacco, the 34-year-old QB the Broncos acquired from Baltimore in the offseason.

"I saw some good throws out there today" from Hogan, coach Vic Fangio said. "I'll see more when I go in and watch the tape. But I think Kevin has made a lot of improvements,

and I'm talking from the spring to now ... and hopefully he'll keep doing that."

Competing with Hogan for the No. 2 job is Lock, a second-round draft pick who's taking a crash course in the pro passing game after lining up under center at Missouri only a handful of times.

Rypien, who went undrafted after winning 37 games at Boise State, is hoping to stick around either as the third quarterback or on the practice squad.

"I like Brett," Fangio said. "Brett, I think, maybe has got a future."

Lock might very well be the future in Denver, but he's got a long way to go. He relied on his athleticism in college and was known for side-arming the ball, something Fangio only wants to see when his quarterback has a defender in his face.

"It's good that he can do that, but he needs to use it when he needs to, not when he doesn't need to," Fangio said. "His college offense really had no carry-over to pro offenses and he was under duress a lot of times at his college, so a lot of his plays he was running around."

Therefore, Fangio said, "I don't think he's far along being a ready NFL quarterback as he could have been. ... He's not a quarterback yet. He's a hard-throwing pitcher that doesn't know how to pitch yet, so the faster he gets that, the better off he'll be—and we'll be."

Fangio is hoping Lock proves a quick study.

"Every player is different, especially at that position," Fangio said. "It could happen fast, like we've seen some rookies do. It could be a process to where it could be a couple of years. So, fast or a couple of years, somewhere in between. We'll see. I tell him that is on him. He's got to do it."

For now, the Broncos are counting on Flacco, who's hoping to follow in Peyton Manning's footsteps and have a solid second chapter in Denver.

General manager John Elway said he finally feels good about his QB room after trading a fourth-round pick to the Ravens for Flacco and selecting Lock in the second round of the NFL draft.

"We just felt that with Joe coming in, getting him in a trade, and where he is in his

career, we feel like he's in his prime. At least we hope he is," Elway said. "To have a young guy like Drew learn under him and be able to kind of solidify that position for a while, obviously we've been looking for one since Peyton retired."

Elway cycled through Trevor Siemian, Paxton Lynch, Brock Osweiler and Case Keenum following Manning's retirement in 2016.

"That's always a difficult position to fill," Elway said. "But we finally feel pretty good about that position and where we are."

Notes: TE Jack Butt took a scheduled day off, TE Troy Fumagalli is day-to-day with a sore hip and rookie LB Justin Hollins sat out Sunday with a sore hamstring. ... The Broncos hosted Alzheimer's Awareness Day on Sunday, two months after team owner Pat Bowlen died at 75 following a long battle with the disease. Daughter Anabelle noted the sea of purple in the crowd replacing the usual orange. "This day is hard," she said. "But we are showing that we are strong and this is a way to raise money so things like this won't happen."

No rest for Race: Victorious coach calls shots for jr. players

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



After successfully coaching the CNMI National Tennis Team to a record feat in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa, Jeff Race is now in Fiji for the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

"No break. Right back at it," said Race, who left Apia last Sunday morning and arrived in Fiji in the afternoon.

The CNMI Sports Hall of Famer will be working with the Commonwealth's U12, U14, and U16 players that will compete in the singles, doubles, and team events in the POJC from July 25 to 31. Race is expected

to reunite with his players today, as the team left Saipan yesterday morning.

Juncheol Hwang will be playing in the U12 team event after getting a wild card, while Daniel Kang, David Kwon, and Anthony Gregoire are entered in the U14 singles and doubles contests. Also seeing action in the U14 division are Helen Kim, Hyejin Elliot, and Serin Chung, while Jimin Woo, Sean Lee, Sam Ryu, and Maria Gregoire are competing in the U16 age group.

The 11 players earned a trip to Fiji for the POJC after their notable performances in the 2019 North Pacific Regional Championships held on Saipan last month. Lee won the singles and doubles (with Ryu) titles in

the boys U16 division, while majority of the team members made it to the semifinals of their respective events.

The CNMI players competed against Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Guam in the North Pacific Regional Championships. Then in POJC, they may collide against the representatives of the three island-nations along with players from the Cook Islands, Norfolk Islands, Tahiti, and Samoa of the East Pacific, and Fiji, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea of the West Pacific.



LYDIA TAN
Head coach Jeff Race, right, helps Colin Sinclair fix his racket during a break in the team event in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa.

TOKYO (AP)—Despite scandals, rising costs and doubts about the economic payoff, the Tokyo Olympics will be a must-see event—if you can find a ticket or a hotel room—when they open in a year.

Tokyo was supposed to be a "safe pair of hands" after Rio de Janeiro's corruption and near-meltdown three years ago.

Mostly, it has been.

Local sponsorship revenue has passed \$3 billion, about three times more than any previous games, driven by Japan's giant advertising and marketing company Dentsu Inc., the exclusive marketing agency for the Tokyo Games caught in a French probe into alleged vote-buying connected with Tokyo winning the 2020 Olympics.

Ticket demand is unprecedented and few Japanese can even get them. Estimates sug-

Scandal, high costs but unrivaled demand at Tokyo Olympics

gest up to 90% of Japan residents who applied were unsuccessful in the first phase of a ticket lottery in June. Ticket prices are sure to soar with scalping a certainty, though Japan just passed a law banning the practice.

"This is probably going to be the most popular Olympics, and possibly one of the most popular events of all time," Ken Hanscom told The Associated Press. He follows ticketing around the globe as the chief operating officer of Los Angeles-based TicketManager.

Roy Tomizawa, a Japanese American who lives in Japan and published the most definitive book on Tokyo's 1964 Olympics, said he applied for 16 tickets and got zero in the June lottery.

Organizers have quickly

thrown together a so-called second-chance lottery in August, and have another lottery set for later in the year. But this will not change the reality: Demand exceeds supply in Japan by at least 10 times. And it's a similar story for buyers outside Japan.

"I thought that putting myself down for the most expensive tickets would ensure me of winning seats, but that wasn't the case," Tomizawa told the AP. "I struck out resoundingly. The high demand appeared to surprise everyone, Japanese and non-Japanese alike."

Tomizawa, whose father was a producer for NBC News at the '64 Olympics, said the "measured demeanor" of the Japanese hides their Olympic enthusiasm. There are great ex-



pectations. Japan is shooting for a record 30 gold medals, almost twice the previous best of 16 in Tokyo.

This is also the second of three straight Olympics in Asia, another factor driving interest.

And don't forget: Greater Tokyo has a population of more than 35 million—the world's largest metropolitan area.

The Olympics will be simply a sideshow for some Tokyo visitors, astounded by the cleanliness, courtesy and order. Japan's sprawling capital is a dense mix of the traditional and eccentric where bowing meets bustle. Small shrines or temples nestle alongside gleaming towers, passengers wedge silently into commuter

trains and pedestrians meander through a labyrinth of alleyways, always lined with places to eat and drink.

"I've never, never seen interest in attending the Olympics like I have for Tokyo," said Greg Harney, who works at Cartan Global, an Authorized Ticket Reseller for much of Latin American and the Caribbean, and is preparing to attend his 19th Olympics.

Tokyo's 1964 Olympics marked a turning point for Japan, highlighting the country's recovery just 19 years after World War II. It was the first games in Asia and left behind breathtaking architecture—such as Kenzo Tange's Yoyogi National Gymnasium and its suspension roof—and showcased dozens of consumer

brands that became household names around the world.

Ambitions are more modest this time. Organizers are emphasizing the rebuilding of the Fukushima area northeast of Tokyo, which was devastated by a 2011 earthquake, tsunami and the meltdown of three nuclear reactors. Some baseball and softball is being played there, a gesture to convince the world the area is safe.

Tokyo appears to be a watershed for the International Olympic Committee, which is recasting the Olympics and its bidding process as "cost-sensitive" after years of coaxing cities to splurge on white elephant sports venues. Rio de Janeiro is the last example, still littered three years later with money-sapping arenas, bribery trials and an organizing committee facing bankruptcy.

RECORD

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returning in 1987 with Sakovich leading the team.

The CNMI went on to consistently compete in the Pacific Games, joining the regional tournament's next eight editions, including this year's. The Commonwealth failed to bring home medals in 1991 and 2015 Pacific Games hosted by Papua New Guinea and in 2007 in Samoa. In 1995 in Tahiti, the CNMI got a silver and two bronze medals, while in 2003 in Fiji, the team won a silver and a gold. In 2001 in New Caledonia, the CNMI Baseball Team came out victorious for the Commonwealth's lone medal in Noumea.

Adding the tennis team's four medals in Samoa last week, the CNMI now has a total of 32 medals—eight golds, 12 silvers, and 12 bronzes—in its 10 appearances in the Pacific Games. New Caledonia holds the record (2,269)—910 gold medals, 728 silvers, and 631 bronzes—while Tahiti



LYDIA TAN
Colin Sinclair, left, and Robbie Schorr, are all smiles after receiving their silver medal in the men's doubles event in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa last Saturday.

(517 golds) and PNG (461)

respectively, in the history of the Pacific Games.

TENORIO

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Watanabe, and SSC's Jinju Thompson and Lennosuke Suzuki are now in South Korea for the 18th FINA World Championships (long course).

Tenorio joined Heat 2 of the qualifying races for the 100m backstroke yesterday at the South Korea Nambu University Municipal Aquatics Center in Gwangju and timed in at 1:04.91. China's Jiayu Xu earned the fastest qualifying time at 52.85 seconds.

Suzuki had his first event last Sunday, recording 1:20.97 in the 100m breaststroke event. United Kingdom's Adam Peaty was the top qualifier in the preliminary races after checking in at 57.59 seconds.

The CNMI's two other swimmers, Thompson and Watanabe, will have their first race today and tomorrow. Thompson is entered in the 200m freestyle event and will be competing against Armenia's Ani Poghosyan, Tonga's Charissa Panuve, and Jordan's

Leedia Alsafadi on Heat 1. Watanabe is on Heat 1 of the 50m backstroke race, joining 9 other swimmers—Tajikistan's Ekaterina Bordachyova, Senegal's Sophia Disgne, Saints Kitts and Nevis' Jenni-

fer Harding-Marlin, Malawi's Tawamika Chang'anamuno, Maldives' Asihath Sausan, Tanzania's Shivani Bhatt, Benin's Nafissath Radji, Yemen's Nooran Ba Matraf, and Panama's Nimia Murua.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Aika Watanabe, left, and Jinju Thompson pose for a photo before a practice swim at the 18th FINA World Championships in South Korea.



Pujols hits milestone in win over Mariners

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Foles prepares for Super Bowl aspirations with Jaguars

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Record feat for NMI tennis



LYDIA TAN

The CNMI Men's National Tennis Team is honored during the medal presentation ceremony at the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa early this month.



LYDIA TAN

Ken Song returns to Kiribati's Bauro Lambourne during the second singles match in the team event in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa early this month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI National Tennis Team reached a milestone in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa, as its three gold medals were the most the Commonwealth earned in the regional competition.

The squad, which was made up of Colin Sinclair, Robbie Schorr, Ken Song, Bobby Cruz, Carol Lee, Malika Miyawaki, Isabel Heras, Tania Tan, and coaches Jeff Race (head) and Lydia Tan (assistant), delivered the gold medals for the CNMI after prevailing in the men's singles, mixed doubles, and team events. Sinclair notched the gold in the singles and mixed doubles (with Lee) and also joined forces with Song and Schorr in ruling the team tournament.

Days after the conquest in Samoa, Race still felt their achievement was surreal.

"I am still in shock, but loving it," he said.

"It was really inspirational to have Colin Sinclair on our



team. It helped give our other players confidence that with him, they could do their best and win medals. Even the matches that we lost were all very closely contested. I feel like Carol and Robbie played at levels above what they'd been able to achieve in the past. Ken and Isabel showed how much their stateside experience in the last year helped them improve. Malika played a close match with a player from Tahiti that would have wiped her out two years ago. Tania overcame her doubts to win a three-set singles match against a player that she found very intimidating going into the match. All the players on our team won at least one or more matches," Race added.

The group's three gold

medals surpassed the two golds (each) that the CNMI bagged during the 1987 South Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia and in the 1999 South Pacific Games in Guam.

Swimmer and CNMI Sports Hall of Famer Jon Sakovich handed the islands two gold medals, three silvers, and a bronze in the 1987 competition, according to Saipan Swim Club co-founder and Sakovich father, Bill. The Commonwealth's two gold medals in the 1999 event, on the other hand, were courtesy of swimmer Xenavee Pangelinan (400m individual medley) and the men's slow pitch team. The CNMI also won six silver medals and eight bronzes in Guam for the team's most medals (16) since joining the South Pacific/Pacific Games in 1979.

The first South Pacific/Pacific Games was held in Fiji in 1963, but it was only in the event's sixth edition that the CNMI finally send athletes to the competition. The Commonwealth did not medal in its debut and then missed the 1983 event in Samoa before

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Tenorio sets 2 swim marks in Samoa

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan's Juhn Tenorio posted two new CNMI age group records when he represented the CNMI to the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa early this month.

He timed in at 29.62 seconds in the 50m backstroke qualifying race last July 12 for an unofficial new Commonwealth mark in the boys 15 to 16 age group, surpassing the 29.75 seconds Kai Staal logged on Aug. 1, 2009 in the XIII FINA World Championships in Rome, Italy. Tenorio's other record was made in the 100m backstroke event last July 13, as he finished the two-loop race in 1:04.52, faster than the old mark (1:05.33) Kensuke Kimura registered on March 23, 2013 during the Saipan Swim Club International In-

vitational Swim Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming



Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation

The 15-year-old's new CNMI age group records are

subject for confirmation from the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation.

Meanwhile, after compet-

ing in Samoa, Tenorio just stayed on Saipan for less than a week, as he, fellow Tsunami Saipan swimmer Aika

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Juhn Tenorio is in South Korea representing the CNMI to the 18th FINA World Championships.